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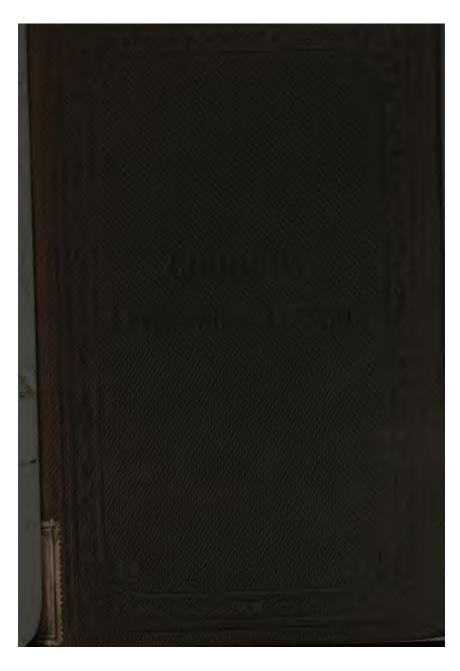
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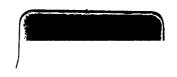
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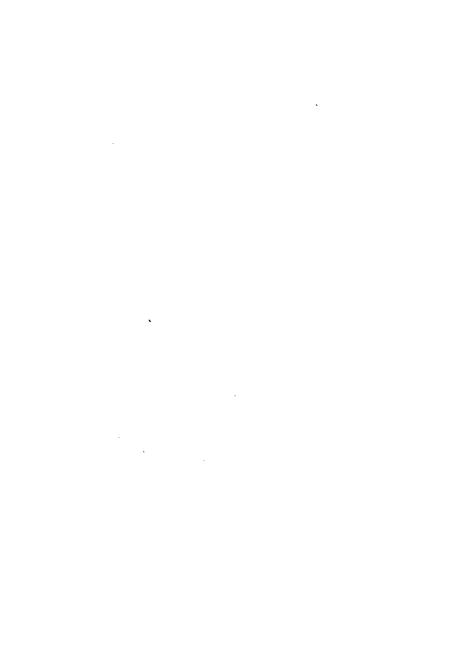




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# LATIN PROSE LESSONS.

BY

# ALFRED J. CHURCH, M.A.'

ONE OF THE UNDER MASTERS IN THE MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL LONDON.

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# PREFACE.

THE object of this little Book is to supply a progressive series of Exercises in construing, introductory to the study of Cæsar. By occasional alterations and omissions, many authors have been made available for this purpose. It is hoped that the Lessons combine simplicity of construction with good Latinity, and that they for the most part possess an interest and attractiveness to which the tedious epitomes and compilations commonly in use scarcely profess to lay claim.

In the latter portion of the Book will be found a few Scripture Stories, which may be useful as "Divinity" Lessons; and some longer narratives (for the most part adapted from Livy) of important or interesting events in Roman History.

It may be necessary to observe that Lessons i.—xvii. are not so much intended to be introductory to those that follow, as to furnish the teacher with sets of examples by which the principal rules of Syntax may be illustrated.



# LATIN PROSE LESSONS.

#### PART I.

[The Arabic Numerals refer to King Edward VI.'s Grammar: the Roman to Yonge's Eton Grammar.]

# i. Verbs Substantive. [6.] (liv.)

HOMERUS, ut primus, ita optimus fuit poetarum.

C. Licinius Stolo, primus inter homines plebeios, factus est Consul et Magister equitum.

Ii tantum, qui scientiam sine spe præmiorum colant, rite appellantur philosophi.

Cato esse quam videri bonus malebat.

Universus hic mundus una civitas rectè existimatur.

# ii. The Infinitive. [14.] (viii.)

Sentimus animum immortalem esse.

Urbs territa audivit, exercitum apud Cannas fusum esse, quadraginta quinque millia peditum, duo millia septingentos equites cæsos esse, Consulem ipsum, L. Æmilium, in prœlio cecidisse.

Videmus, labi annos, propinquare mortem, omnia, quæ sunt in terris, perire.

Mavult bonus decipi quam decipere.

Video te velle in cœlum migrare.

Catilina urbem vastare, magistratus occidere, rempublicam evertere conatus est.

Demosthenem Græcorum, Ciceronem Romanorum eloquentissimum fuisse, constat.

Fatemur alios morituros esse, speramus nosmetipsos fore immortales.

# iii. The Relative. [30. 44.] (xv. xx.)

Manlius, vir fortissimus, qui Capitolium servaverat, ex eo ipso loco dejectus est.

Ego in exsilium abeo, qui patriam toties servavi.

Ego te incuso, qui urbem hanc pulcherrimam evertere conatus es.

Te laudamus, virgo constantissima, quæ mortem ipsam non exhorruisti.

Vitam istam non optamus, quam timor exagitat, quam cupiditates turbant.

Urbem Romanam, quam Porsenna obsidebat, M. Scævola servavit.

C. Claudius Nero ad flumen Metaurum exercitum fugavit, quem Hasdrubal ad auxilium Hannibalis ducebat.

Te diligunt cives, quorum vitas et fortunas toties servâsti.

# iv. Apposition. [50.] (xxi.)

C. Cilnius Mæcenas, eques Romanus, Augusti Cæsaris amicus, Virgilium et Horatium, poetas suavissimos, dilexit.

Prusias, rex Bithyniæ, Hannibalem, profugum et hospitem, turpiter prodidit.

Galbam, Hispaniæ Proconsulem, insignem virum, milites sui Imperatorem salutaverunt.

Mummius, dux Romanorum, Corinthum, urbem pulcherrimam et ditissimam, totius Græciæ caput, expugnavit et vastavit. Constat, Cassarem, eversorem libertatis, meritò interfectum esse, Brutum autem, libertatis assertorem, non rectè interfecisse.

v. [52.] (xxii.)

The latter of two Substantives put in the Genitive.

Sulla, bellorum multorum victor, desiderium quietis

tandem sensit.

Labor, et cibi temperantia, sunt optima morborum remedia.

Consentiunt omnes, patriæ amorem, et mortis contemptum, præcipuas esse militum virtutes.

Torquet nos nimia rerum mortalium cura, et insana divitiarum cupido.

vi. [60. 63.] (xxvii. xxix.)

Adjectives requiring a Genitive case.

Themistocles peritissimos belli navalis Athenienses fecit. Socratem Atheniensem, virum totius philosophiæ gnarum, sui cives damnaverunt.

Terentium Varronem, virum rei militaris omnino rudem, Romani ducem delegerunt.

Constat veteres Romanos gloriæ studiosos, patriæ amantissimos, laborum patientissimos fuisse.

Galba, Imperator Romanus, pecuniæ alienæ non appetens fuit, suæ parcus, publicæ avarus.

Beneficiorum memorem, immemorem injuriarum, omnes diligunt.

Vii. [73.] (lv.)

The Construction of "Sum" with a Genitive.

Viri sapientis est, mala futura providere, præsentia contemnere.

Boni ducis est, consilia belli cautè perpendere, audaciter exsequi.

Cæsar statuit, non esse dignitatis populi Romani navibus Rhenum transire.

Bello Gallico omnia, præter Capitolium, hostium erant.

# viii. Adjectives requiring a Dative. [85.] (xxxv.)

Quod verum, simplex, sincerumque sit, id est naturæ hominum aptissimum.

Britannia portus classibus vel maximis commodos habet.

Fiunt omnia castris quam urbi similiora.

Animum paterno dissimilem ostendit.

Philosophiam nostræ longè diversam explicuit.

Mantua, urbs Cremonæ vicina, agrorum spoliationem simul passa est.

Agros, suis conterminos, ingenti pecuniâ emit.

Gentem, populo Romano amicam, defendere statuimus.

Tiberius Gracchus legem, plebi gratam, patribus infensam, tulit.

Gallos, quorum corpora morbo erant obnoxia, fames et pestilentia consumpsit.

Natura animalia ventri obedientia finxit.

Campum operi facilem exercitus insedit.

# ix. [91. 92. 100. 104. 105. 108. 110.] (lxii. lxvii. lxix.) Verbs governing a Dative.

Consul, cum saluti suæ timeret, ad exercitum confugit. Christiani est ea expetere, quæ prosint omnibus, nemini noceant.

Consulite vobis, prospicite patriæ.

Ea, quæ in consulatu suo Cicero gesserat, populo Romano placuerunt.

Sapientis est iræ et cupiditati imperare.

Legibus patriæ, et majorum præceptis, sapiens parebit.

Periti ducis imperio milites libenter parent.

Regi, injusta jubenti, fortiter restitit.

Studiis vacamus, et literarum amori indulgemus.

Iis solum, qui hostibus parcant, et injuriosis ignoscant, Deus favet.

Philosophi est, animi sui morbis mederi.

Scelus committentibus irascimur; veniam precantibus, ignoscimus.

Plebs imperita iis ipsis, qui in libertatem conjurabant, adulari solebat.

Nobis nuntiatum est, prioribus reipublicæ malis, bello, inopiæ, pestilentiæ, gravius accessisse periculum, civium discordiam.

Tibi arridet Fortuna, adsunt divitiæ; animo tamen tuo cura inest, et mors quotidie vitæ tuæ imminet.

Mihi, cum reipublicæ præessem, adversati sunt homines nequissimi.

Plato philosophiæ diligentissime incubuit, et in omni literarum genere aliis antecellere cupivit.

Philosophi omnes huic sententiæ consentiunt.

Ducibus deerat prudentia, militibus fortitudo.

Tercenti tantum equites omni illi exercitui superfuerunt.

Consul, qui prœlio non interfuerat, legati laudibus obtrectavit.

x. [94. 97. 99. 103. 104. 108.] (lxiii. lxiv. lxvii. lxviii. lxix.) Verbs governing a Dative of the Person, and an Accusative of the Thing.

Tibi neminem aut anteposuissem unquam, aut etiam comparâssem.

Dona, quæ alienis largitur, suis invidet.

Lycurgus locupletium agros plebi colendos dedit.

Tullus fana Pallori ac Pavori vovit.

Multa mihi promisisti, nihil solvisti.

Dux stipendium militibus numeravit.

Nauta se mari et vento committit.

Fateris te ea mihi non redditurum esse, quæ fidei tuæ credidi.

Manlius ipsam victoriam filio suo ignoscere noluit, quum prœlium injussu commisisset.

Velim tibi hoc persuadeas, me tuis consiliis non defuturum esse.

Deus nobis peccata condonet, pericula defendat.

Istum caveamus, qui non modo corpori, verum etiam animo, exitium minatur.

Nuntium mihi pessimum attulisti, novum dolorem malis prioribus adjecisti.

Illa marito jam morituro adhærebat, et colla brachis circumjaciebat.

Mezentius vivum cadaveri conjungebat.

Tela hostibus ingerere, mœnibus faces injicere, incipiunt.

Equitatui interponit pedites; seipsum cum manu delectâ fortissimis hostium opponit.

Necessitudines meas tibi postposui.

Gloriam divitiis, virtutem gloriæ, antepono.

Num ausus es iis maledicere, qui patriæ suæ satisfecerunt?

**xi.** [130.] (xliii.)

The Ablative expressing the Form, Quality, &c. of a Thing.

Gravis vinculis, longâ valetudine infirmus, tandem e carcere excessit.

Pectus decorum vulneribus, quæ pro patriâ acceperat, ostendit.

Is precipuè fagiendus est, qui ore pulcher sit, corde turpis.

Locus, sua natura tutus, jam inexpugnabilis factus est. Piso fuit genere clarus, divitiis potens, virtute insignis.

Delecti, quibus corpus annis infirmum, ingenium sapientia validum erat.

Rhodanus, flumine prævalidus, puerum natantem hausit.

# xii.

[136. 137.] (xlvi.)

The Construction of Comparatives.

Præmium, gemmis et auro pretiosius, expetimus.
Tydeus filium seipso fortiorem genuit.
Supplicium, ipså morte crudelius, perpessus est.
Discordia, bello externo periculosior, inter avos exorta est.
Hannibal erat belli peritior quam Scipio.
Quid magis est durum saxo? quid mollius undå?
Nobis nihil est timendum magis quam ille consul.
Nihil in rerum naturå mutabilius quam ventus.
Nihil honestius quam pro patriå mori.
Nihil reipublicæ magis nocuit quam civilia bella.

xiii.

[151.] (lxxvii.)

The Ablative expressing the Instrument, Cause, &c. of an Action.

Augustus res Italas armis tutatur, moribus ornat.

Juvenes armis, senes consilio, omnes temperantia et pietate, reipublicæ prosunt.

Alexander nodum inexplicabilem, quem manibus solvere non potuerat, tandem ense discidit.

Constat rempublicam neque vi hostium, neque irâ Deorum, sed suorum civium luxuriâ, cupiditate, discordiâ cecidisse. Totus iste exercitus, quem civitas in bellum summâ diligentià miserat, frigore, fame, ferro interiit.

Bonum illum et constantem virum rex neque donis corrupit, neque minis exterruit.

Exercitum Hannibalis, quem Roma armis non superaverat, Capua voluptatibus fregit.

C. Julius Cæsar ea, quæ summâ prudentiâ consuluisset, virtute egregiâ perfecit.

Concordià res parvæ crescunt, discordià maximæ dilabuntur.

Rem acu tetigisti.

# xiv. The Ablative of the Agent. [152.] (lxxviii.)

Bellum Judaicum, a Vespasiano cceptum, a Tito feliciter gestum est; hujus enim virtute et consilio urbs Hierosolyma capta est.

A lupo dente, a tauro cornu petimur.

Hannibal, a rege Prusiâ proditus, veneno, quod secum in annulo portabat, seipsum interfecit.

Cupiditates inanes, et nimia rerum terrestrium sollicitudo, et ipse mortis timor, a religione pelluntur.

# XV. The Ablative Absolute. [164.] (lxxxiv.)

M. Antonius, classe ad Actium fugatâ, spe omni amissâ, in Ægyptum confugit.

Socrates Atheniensis, civis optimus, philosophus sapientissimus, accusantibus turpissimis viris, capitis damnatus est.

L. Sulla, urgente morbo, se dictaturâ abdicavit.

Civitas Romana, excisis æmulis regibus, et toto jam subacto orbe, suorum civium discordia pæne deleta est.

Cicero, conjuratione Catalinæ patefactå et mox oppresså, pater patriæ appellatus est.

xvi.

Time.

[168. 169.] (cix. cx.)

Magnæ res illo tempore gestæ sunt.

Obsidionem, quam primă æstate susceperat, mediă tandem hieme confecit.

Hannibal Carthaginiensis bellum cum Romanis annos sedecim vario eventu gessit.

Morbum gravissimum, in quem primâ juventute conciderat, vitam totam pertulit.

#### xvii.

Place. [172—182.] (cxii. cxv.)

Consul summâ celeritate in Hispaniam contendit: quum autem hostes jam devictos invenisset, paucos dies Sagunti moratus, Romam rediit.

Juvenes Romani Athenas studiorum causa petebant.

Legati Carthaginem in Africam trajecerunt.

Virgilius poeta Mantuæ natus est, in Calabriâ mortuus, in urbe Neapoli sepultus.

Agamemnon, dux Græcorum, cum domum suam a Trojâ feliciter navigâsset, Mycænis ab uxore Clytemnestrâ interfectus est.

Imperator ipse nuntium pugnæ Romæ opperiebatur.

Catalina, eloquentiâ Ciceronis oppressus, Româ clam abiit.

#### PART II.

#### T.

ANAXAGORAS philosophus, morte filii nuntiatâ, respondit, "Sciebam me genuisse mortalem."

#### II.

Democritus, luminibus amissis, dicebat 'se alba scilicet et atra discernere non posse, at verò bona, mala, æqua, iniqua, honesta, turpia, posse.'

#### III.

Samnites, quum Curio ad focum sedenti magnum auri pondus attulissent, ab eo repudiati sunt. "Mihi," inquit, "præclarum videtur, non aurum habere, sed iis, qui habeant, imperare."

#### IV.

Viriathus, quum bellum contra Romanos annos xiv. gessisset, a suis interfectus est. Interfectoribus ejus, præmium petentibus, Cæpio Consul respondit, 'Nunquam placuisse Romanis, ducem a militibus interfici.'

## V.

Q. Fabius summo consilio et virtute Tarentum recepit. Quum C. Salinator, qui, amisso oppido, in arcem fugerat, gloriaretur, atque ita diceret: "Meâ operâ, Q. Fabi, Tarentum recepisti." "Certè," inquit Fabius subridens, "nam nisi tu amisisses, ego non recepissem."

#### VI.

Spurins Carvilius ex vulnere ob rempublicam accepto graviter claudicabat, et hanc ob causam in publicum prodire verecundabatur. Huic inquit mater: "Ne prodire verecunderis, mî fili; nam quotiescunque gradum facies, toties tuarum virtutum recordaberis."

#### VII.

Quum urbs Roma a Gallis capta et incensa esset, populus Veios migrare, quam tecta reædificare, maluit. Fortà exercitus per Forum ducebatur; centurio repente exclamavit, "Signifer, statue signum; hic optimè manebimus." Verbum hoc fortuitum, quod divinitus missum esse videbatur, populi voluntatem mutavit.

### VIIL

Alcibiadem Atheniensem, virum imperii cupidissimum, cives sui honoribus multis excoluerunt, mox autem pellere voluerunt. Aristophanes, poeta comicus, de hâc re dixisse fertur, "Non oportet leonem in urbe ali; sin verò enutritus sit, moribus ejus obtemperandum est."

#### IX.

Themistocles Atheniensis, cum ei Simonides, aut quis alius, memoriæ artem polliceretur, "Mallem," inquit, "oblivionis artem habere, nam memini etiam quæ nolo; oblivisci non possum quæ volo."

#### X.

Idem Themistocles, quum ei homo quidam Seriphius objecisset, 'non propter merita sua, sed propter patriam inclytum esse;' "At neque tu," inquit, "inclytus esses, si Atheniensis; neque ego, si Seriphius."

#### XI.

Nos patria delectat, cujus rei tanta est vis et tanta natura, ut Ithacam illam in saxis asperrimis, tanquam nidulum, affixam, vir sapientissimus, Ulysses, immortalitati anteponeret.

#### XII.

Homines animo et oratione bestiis antecellunt, sed sensibus plerumque vincuntur; ut olfactu a canibus, tactu a talpis, visa a plerisque avibus, gustatu ab armentis, quæ herbas noxias et innoxias facilè discernunt.

#### XIII.

Quid præcipuum est in rebus humanis? Vitia domuisse. Hâc nulla est major victoria. Multi sunt qui urbes, qui populos in potestate habuerunt, paucissimi qui se.

#### XIV.

Intelligimus lucem, quâ fruimur, spiritum, quem ducimus, et omnia vitæ commoda, nobis a Deo dari. Quis est tam vecors, ut non sentiat, Deum esse, si modo cœlum suspexerit?

#### XV.

Quòd si morbis corporis gravioribus jucunditas vitæ impeditur, quanto magis animi morbis impediri necesse est. Animi autem morbi sunt cupiditates immensæ et inanes divitiarum, gloriæ, dominationis. His accedunt ægritudines, molestiæ, mærores, qui animos exedunt; accedit etiam mors, quæ, quasi saxum Tantalo, hominibus semper impendet.

#### XVI.

Pro Cn. Pompeio, graviter ægrotante, Campani publica vota fecerunt. At si tum esset exstinctus, a miseris rebus discessisset. Non enim cum socero bellum gessisset; non imparatus arma sumpsisset; non domum reliquisset; non ex Italiâ fugisset; non, exercitu amisso, in servorum manus incidisset; non, capite truncus, vulneribus fœdissimè laniatus, in littore Ægyptiaco jacuisset.

#### XVII.

Apud Hypanim fluvium, qui ab Europæ parte in pontum influit, bestiolæ quædam, ut ait Aristoteles, nascuntur, quæ unum diem vivunt. Ex his igitur, quæ octavå horå mortua est, provectå ætate mortua est; quæ verò occidente sole, decrepita. Confer nostram longissimam ætatem cum æternitate. Nos quoque non minus breves esse, quam illæ bestiolæ, reperimur.

#### XVIII.

Rutilius Rufus, quum amici cujusdam rogationi injustissimæ resisteret, isque indignabundus dixisset, "Quid ergo mihi prodest amicitia tua, si, quod rogo, non facis?" "Quid mihi tua," respondit, "si propter te aliquid inhonestè facturus sum?"

#### XIX.

Alexander Magnus tumulum Achillis in Sigoco invisit. Ibi, quum inferias herois victimis coesis placavisset, exclamasse fertur, "O fortunate juvenis, qui Homerum, laudis tuæ præconem, inveneris!" Neque talem ipse invenit, quem ab Apelle pictum, a Lysippo fictum, summis artificibus, Choerilus, poeta pessimus, versibus celebravia.

#### XX.

Alexander amico bene merito urbem totam donabat. Quum ille, munificentià tantà attonitus, munus recusaret, diceretque, 'se privatum esse, neque fortunæ suæ tam ingens donum convenire;' "Non quæro," inquit rex, "quid te accipere deceat, sed quid me dare." Rex idem piratam comprehensum interrogavit, 'quo jure maria infestaret?' Respondit ille, "Eodem, quo tu orbem terrarum. Sed quia id ego navigio parvo facio, latro vocor; tu, quia classes habes et exercitus, Imperator." Alexander hominem inviolatum dimisit.

#### XXI.

Cæsar Augustus, dum Alexandriæ morabatur, conditorium et corpus Alexandri e penetrali proferri jussit. Hæc, corona aurea imposita, et floribus aspersis, veneratus est. Interrogantibus quibusdam, 'num et Ptolemæum inspicere vellet,' respondit, 'regem sa voluisse videre, non mortuos.'

#### XXII.

Socrates Atheniensis in omnibus ferè sermonibus nihil ipse affirmabat, tantum alios refellebat. Hoc enim cæteris præstabat: illi scire se, quæ nescirent, putabant: ipse hoc unum sciebat, se nihil scire. Quamobrem ab Apolline mortalium sapientissimus judicatus est.

#### XXIII.

Xanthippe, Socratis uxor, morosa admodum fuisse fertur, et jurgiosa. Interrogavit Socratem Alcibiades 'quænam ratio esset, cur mulierem tam molestam domo non exigeret.' "Quoniam," inquit Socrates, "illam domi perpetiendo disco cæterorum quoque foris petulantiam et injurias faciliùs ferre."

#### XXIV.

Posidonius philosophus, graviter ægrotans, coram Pompeio de bono et malo disputabat. Affirmabat nihil esse bonum, nisi quod honestum; nihil malum, nisi quod turpe. At quum morbi dolore interdum acrius cruciaretur, philosophus exclamâsse fertur, "Nil agis, dolor; quamvis molestus sis, nunquam confitebor te esse malum."

#### XXV.

Aiebat Thales, philosophus Milesius, 'rem esse omnium difficillimam seipsum nôsse; facillimam autem alterum admonere.' Interrogatus 'quid maximè esset communè hominibus,' "Spes," respondit; "spem enim etiam illi habent, quibus nihil aliud restat."

#### XXVI.

Epictetus quærentibus 'quis esset dives,' respondit, "Is eui satis est, quod habet." At nemini potius quam Epicteto de hâc re credendum est, qui, conditione servili contentus, philosophiæ diligentissimà incubuit, et libros scripsit, quibus placita Stoicorum pulcherrimè expressit.

#### XXVII.

Epaminondas Thebanus, quum Lacedæmonios apud Mantineam vicisset, ipse autem gravi vulnere periret, quæsivit salvusne esset olypeus.' Quum 'salvum esse' flentes sui respondissent, rogavit, 'essentne fusi hostes.' Quum id quoque, ut cupiebat, audivisset, hastam, quâ transfixus erat, evelli jussit; ita, multo sanguine profuso, in lætitiâ et victoriâ pulcherrimè est mortuus.

#### XXVIII.

Cum Pyrrhus, rex Epiri, bellum populo Romano inferret, perfuga ab eo in castra Fabricii, ducis Romani, venit., pollicitusque est 'se pro mercede certà clam in castra Pyrrhi rediturum, et eum veneno necaturum.' Hunc Fabricius ad Pyrrhum misit: idque factum a Senatu laudatum est.

#### XXIX.

Scipio Africanus tres speculatores, ab Hannibale in sua castra missos, per exercitum circumduci jussit. Salvi igitur ad suos redierunt, et omnia, quæ viderant, narraverunt. At Hannibal tantâ Romanorum fiduciâ vehementer commotus est, nec multo post, pugnâ ad Zamam commissâ, a Scipione est victus.

#### XXX.

Diogenes philosophus in dolio habitâsse fertur. Divitias omnes projecit, effecitque ut nihil ei eripi posset. Servus ei erat unicus, cui nomen Manes. Hunc, quum aufugisset, recuperare noluit. "Turpe est," inquit, "Manem sine Diogene posse vivere, Diogenem sine Mane non posse." Idem, quum puerum cavâ manu bibentem vidisset, protinus calicem, quem in perâ portabat, fregit, his verbis se simul objurgans, "Quamdiu stultus ego sarcinas supervacuas habui."

#### XXXI.

Diogenem in dolio habitantem Alexander visit, jussitque dicere 'si quid opus ei esset.' Tum Diogenes, "Nunc quidem paullulum a sole abeas." Nam rex philosopho apricanti offecerat. His auditis, Alexander dixisse fertur, "Nisi Alexander essem, Diogenes esse velim." Neque tamen Diogenes omnia tam bene dixit. Ad cœnam enim a Platone philosopho vocatus, purpureum stragulum pedibus conculcavit, simul dicens, "Ecce Platonis ostentationem conculco." Tum Plato, "sed cum majore," inquit, "tui ipsius ostentatione."

#### XXXII.

Idem Diogenes projici se jussit inhumatum. Tum inquiunt amici, "Quid? volucribusne et feris?" "Minimè verò," inquit philosophus, "sed bacillum prope me, quo feras abigam, ponitote." Tum illi, "Quî poteris abigere, qui nihil senties?" Respondit Diogenes, "Quid igitur mihi, nihil sentienti, nocebit ferarum laniatus?" Præclariùs autem locutus est Anaxagoras, quum Lampsaci moreretur. Quærebant amici an vellet, si quid ei accidisset, in patriam auferri. "Nihil hecesse est," inquit philosophus, "undique tantumdem est viæ ad inferos."

#### XXXIII.

Demonax hominem magnificâ veste gloriantem aspexit. Vestem manu prehendit et dixit, "Cur gloriaris? hanc ante te ovis gestabat, atqui ovis erat." Anacharsis Scytha, quum in concione Atheniensium oratores audivisset, plebem autem judicantem vidisset, dixisse fertur, "Miror, quòd apud Græcos sapientes verba faciunt, stulti autem judicant." Dicebat Philippus, rex Macedoniæ, 'nullam arcem inexpugnabilem esse, in quam immitti posset jumentum auro onustum.'

#### XXXIV.

Quum Crassus orator pro quodam causam ageret, aderat contra L. Ælius Lamia, vir deformis et stultus. Hic quum interpellaret odiosè, "Audiamus pulchellum puerum," inquit Crassus. Arriserunt omnes. "Non potui," inquit Lamia, "formam mihi ipse fingere; ingenium potui." Tum hic, "Audiamus disertum." Auditores multo vehementiùs arriserunt.

#### XXXV.

Homo locuples, cui nomen Velleius Blœsus, vehementer ægrotabat, et cupiebat testamentum mutare. Regulus quidam, qui Blœsum captabat, et aliquid ex novis tabulis sperabat, medicos hortatur, rogat, 'quoquo modo vitam hominis producerent.' Postquam signatum est testamentum, personam mutat. "Quousque," inquit, "miserum cruciatis? Cur invidetis bonam mortem, cui vitam dare non potestis?" Moritur Blœsus, et, tanquam omnia audivisset, Regulo ne tantulum quidem legat.

#### XXXVI.

Latrones duo, in deversorio commorantes, pecuniam magnam apud hospitam deposuerunt; 'eam non priùs reddendam esse, quam ambo simul poscerent,' dixerunt. Brevi post tempore venit alter, et vestem pullam ostentans, simulat socium mortuum esse, pecuniam poscit, et recipit. Hôc digresso, venit alter, depositum petit, fœminam in judicium trahit. At illam, de rebus suis jam desperantem, patroni consilium periculo exemit. Hic enim in hunc modum locutus est: "Fæmina parata est depositum reddere, sed id facere non potest, nisi socium adduxeris; namque, ut dixis ipse, nonnisi duobus pecunia reddenda est."

#### XXXVII.

Viatores duo, dum iter faciebant, in ursum ingentem fortè inciderunt. Alter in arborem proximam quam citissimè ascendit; alter, humi prostratus, mortuum se esse simulavit. Advenit ursus, caput jacenti admovet, pedibus corpus contrectat, denique intactum relinquit. Digressâ ferâ, descendit, qui in arborem confugerat, et amico suo, "Quid," inquit, "loquebatur ursus, quum in aure tuâ

susurraret?" Huic alter, "Ille me admonebat, ne iis rursus crederem, qui amicos suos periclitantes deserant."

## XXXVIII.

Pyrrhus, rex Epiri, in itinere in canem incidit, qui interfecti hominis corpus custodiebat. Is sine cibo jam tres dies cadaveri assederat, neque unquam discesserat. Rex mortuum humari jussit, canem verò abduci et diligenter curari. Paucos post dies milites singuli coram rege transibant. Aderat canis, qui, simul ac domini sui percussores vidit, furens procurrit, eosque allatravit. Hi comprehensi et interrogati sunt, et, accidentibus aliis sceleris argumentis, homicidium fassi sunt, et pœnas dederunt.

#### XXXIX.

Rem incredibilem de delphini erga puerum amore narrat scriptor quidam Romanus. Puer, qui pauperis filius fuit, piscem panis fragmentis pascere solebat. Quotidie delphinus, a puero inclamatus, ad summam aquam natabat, et puerum a Baiano littore Puteolos in scholam vehebat. At quum puer, ipsius delphini pinnâ fortè vulneratus, mortuus esset, piscis ad locum consuetum aliquoties ventitans, et amicum desiderans, ipse dolore obiit.

#### XL.

Populus Romanus, bellum cum rege Perse gesturus, L. Paullum, Consulem iterum, ducem delegit. Ut eâ ipsâ die domum ad vesperam rediit, occurrit filiola sua Tertia, quæ tum admodum parva erat. Animadvertit Paullus eam tristiculam esse. "Quid est," inquit, "mea filia? quid tristis es?" "Mi pater," inquit illa, "Persa periit." Tum ille, arctiùs puellam complexus, "Accipio," inquit, "mea filia, omen." Erat autem mortuus catellus eo nomine.

#### XLI.

Anus incognita ad Tarquinium Superbum, regum Romanorum ultimum, adiit. Hæc novem libros ferebat, quos divina esse oracula affirmabat. Rex pretium percunctatus est; mulier nimium atque immensum poposcit. Rex, quasi anus ætate desiperet, derisit. At anus, statim digressa, ex novem libris tres combussit, reliquos sex eodem pretio vendere voluit. Id multo magis ridiculum regi visum est. Mulier statim tres alios combussit; idem, quod priùs, rogavit. Tum rex, rem esse divinam intelligens, reliquos tres emit. Hi postea Romæ curâ summâ conservati sunt.

#### XLII.

Mortuos condire et domi servare Ægyptii solebant. Persæ etiam corpora defunctorum cerâ circumlinebant, quo diutiùs conservarentur. Magorum in Mediâ mos erat non humare corpora suorum, nisi ante a feris laniata essent. Hyrcani canes sumptu publico alebant, a quibus mortui lacerarentur. Hanc optimam sepulturam censebant. Rem pœne incredibilem de quâdam Indorum gente narrat Herodotus. Hi enim patres mortuos comedebant; pii esse filii arbitrabantur munere hôc fungi, impium verò esse facinus et detestabile putabant, mortuos aut sepelire aut cremare.

#### XLIII.

Hannibal, a P. Cornelio Scipione apud Zamam devictus, colloquium cum victore habuisse fertur. Interroganti Scipioni, 'quemnam ille pro optimo duce haberet,' respondit Hannibal, 'primum omnium fuisse Alexandrum Magnum; huic secundum Pyrrhum, Epiri regem; seipsum

tertios honores meruisse.' Scipioni homo nuper victus paullo superbiùs loqui videbatur. Tum Hannibal, "At si te, Romane, hodie vicissem, meipsum non modo Pyrrho, verùm etiam ipsi Alexandro anteposuissem."

#### XLIV.

Dionysius Major crudelis fuit in homines, impius in Deos. Hic quum in fanum Jovis venisset, Deo detraxit aureum amiculum, quo a tyranno Gelone exornatus fuerat; simul dixit, 'aureum amiculum æstate nimis grave esse, hieme nimis frigidum.' Tum simulacro lanium pallium injecit. "Hoc," inquit, "ad omne tempus aptum est." Idem Dionysius jussit auream barbam demi Æsculapio. "Filius," inquit, "barbam habere non debet, cum imberbis sit in omnibus templis pater ejus Apollo."

#### XLV.

Ad poetam Ennium venit Nasica. Huic ab ostio Ennium quærenti ancilla dixit, 'domi non esse.' Sensit Nasica, illam domini jussu dixisse, et illum intus esse. Paucis post diebus, quum ad Nasicam venisset Ennius, et eum a januâ quæreret, exclamavit Nasica, 'se domi non esse.' Tum Ennius, "Quid? ego non cognosco," inquit, "vocem tuam?" Huic Nasica, "Homo es impudens; ego quum te quærerem, ancillæ tuæ credidi, te domi non esse; tu mihi non credis ipsi."

## XLVI.

Marcus Piso servis suis præceperat, ut tantûm ad interrogata responderent, nec quidquam præterea dicerent. Uni ex his fortè mandaverat, ut Clodium, qui tunc magistratum gerebat, ad cœnam invitaret. Aderant horâ cœnæ cæteri convivæ omnes, solus Clodius exspectabatur. Piso

servum, qui solebat convivas vocare, aliquoties emisit, ut videret, num veniret. Quum denique jam desperaretur ejus adventus, Piso servo: "Dic," inquit, "num fortè non invitâsti Clodium?" "Invitavi," respondit ille. "Cur ergo non venit?" "Quia venturum se negavit." Tum Piso: "Cur id non statim dixisti?" Contra servus: "Quia non sum a te interrogatus."

## XLVII.

Ad locum eundem lupus et agnus, siti compulsi, venerant. Superior stabat lupus; lougè inferior agnus. Cœpit ille, fame improbâ incitatus, jurgii causam quærere. "Cur," inquit, "aquam, quam bibo, turbulentam fecisti?" Agnus contra timens, "Quî possum, quæso, facere, quod quereris, O lupe? Liquor a te ad me decurrit." Tum lupus, "Ante hos sex menses mihi malè dixisti." Respondit agnus, "Equidem natus non eram." Tum lupus, "Si non tu, at pater tuus mihi maledixit." Hôc dicto, agnum corripit et lacerat.

#### XLVIII.

Vulpes esuriens panem et carnem a pastoribus in arbore cava relicta videt. Arborem ingreditur, cibum comedit. Ventre autem tumefacto, egredi non potuit: gemere et sortem suam lugere incepit. Vulpes alia, quæ forte præteribat, quum gemitus ejus audivisset, accessit, et doloris causam quæsivit. Quid accidisset, ubi audivit, "Illic," inquit, "tibi manere necesse est, donec talis fueris, qualis ingressa es."

#### XLIX.

Civitatem Atheniensem, discordiâ civili diu vexatam, Pisistratus tyrannus in ditionem suam redegit. Quum id Athenienses graviter ferrent, Æsopus fabulam hanc retulit. Ranze olim clamore magno regem, qui mores dissolutos vi compesceret, a Jove petierunt. Pater Deorum risit, et illis tigillum parvum dedit, quod, in aquam sonitu magno delapsum, gentem totam exterruit. Quum autem id, in limo mersum, diu latuisset, rana quædam e stagnis caput profert, et, explorato rege, cæteras evocat. Illæ, ligno insidentes, clamant, regem, qui datus fuerat, inutilem esse; alium poscunt. Tunc Jupiter illis hydrum misit, qui singulas corripuit et interfecit. Ranis querentibus Deus, "Noluistis," inquit, "vestrum bonum ferre, malum perferte."

#### L.

Lupus, cujus in faucibus os hærebat, dolore victus, singulos pretio allicere cœpit, ut extraherent. Tandem grus jurejurando persuasa est, ut collum longum gulæ isti rapaci crederet: sic, non sine magno periculo suo, lupo subvenit. At quum avis præmium pactum postularet, "Ingratus es," inquit lupus, "quæ ex ore nostro caput incolume abstuleris, et mercedem postulas." Res semper inutilis est, improbis succurrere.

#### LI.

Pœnas dabunt, qui laude nimium delectentur. Corvus, celsâ in arbore residens, caseum, quem e fenestrâ rapuerat, comedere voluit. Hunc lupus vidit, et sic loqui cœpit: "Quantus est, O corve, pennarum tuarum nitor! Quam decoro corpore et vultu es! Si modò vocem haberes, nulla tibi ales prior esset." Stultus ille, dum vocem vult ostendere, caseum ore emisit, quem celeriter vulpes dolosa arripuit.

#### LIT.

Æsopum petulans quidam lapide jacto læsit. Tum is, "Bene fecisti," inquit; simul assem dedit, et, "Plus ipee

non habeo, sed unde accipere possis, tibi monstrabo. Ecce venit homo dives et potens; in hunc lapidem conjice; dignum præmium accipies." Persuasus ille, quod monitus fuerat, fecit; sed spes audaciam fefellit, nam comprehensus, et cruci affixus, pœnas dedit.

#### LIII.

Atticus quidam, quum in puerorum turbâ Æsopum ludentem vidisset, restitit et quasi delirum risit. Quod simul sensit senex, arcum retensum in mediâ viâ ponit. "Heus!" inquit, "O sapiens, expedi, quid fecerim." Concurrit populus. Ille se diu torquet, causam rei non intelligit; demum succumbit. Tum victor Æsopus, "Arcum si semper tensum habueris, citò rumpes; at si laxâris, quum voles, erit utilis." Sic ludus animo aliquando dari debet, ut tibi melior ad cogitandum redeat.

#### LIV.

Aquila in summâ quercu nidum fecerat; in mediâ felis pepererat; in imâ sus silvestris fœtum posuerat. Felis improba hoc contubernium fraude evertit. Ad nidum aquilæ scandit. "Pernicies," ait, "mihi et tibi paratur. Vides aprum quotidie humum evertere; hic quercum vult evertere, ut prolem nostram in plano facilè opprimat." Tune ad suis cubile derepit. "Magno sunt in periculo," inquit, "nati tui. Simul cum grege tuo pastum exieris, aquila porcellos tuos rapiet." Aquila, ruinam metuens, ramis desidet; aper, raptum evitans, foras non prodit. Ambo cum suis inediâ consumpti sunt; felis cum prole suâ mortuos devoravit. Sic domus plurimæ improborum fraude evertuntur.

## LV.

Lupus, macie confectus, cani occurrit, quem quum pinguiorem esse vidisset, in hunc modum allocutus est. Lupus. Dic, quæso, unde sic nites? Canis. Tibi erit fortuna similis, si domino par officium præstare potes. L. Quod? C. Ut sis custos liminis, ut domum a furibus noctu tuearis. L. Paratus sum; nunc patior nives imbresque, et vitam in silvis asperam traho. C. Veni ergo mecum. L. Collum detritum video. Unde hoc? C. Nihil est. L. At dic, quæso. C. Alligant me interdiu, ut die quiescam, noctu vigilem. Crepusculo solutus, quò libet, vagor. At panis mihi ultro affertur; dat ossa dominus de mensâ suâ; sic sine labore meo venter repletur. L. Dic age; si quò abire est animus, licetne? C. Planè non licet. L. Fruere quæ laudas, canis. Regnare nolo, liber ut non sim.

#### LVI.

Quum vulpes in puteum inscia decidisset, et altâ margine clauderetur, hircus sitiens in eundem locum devenit; simul rogavit, 'an esset dulcis liquor, et copiosus.' Illa, fraudem moliens, "Descende," inquit, "amice; tanta est aquæ bonitas, ut voluptas mea satiari non possit." Hôc audito, hircus se immisit. Tum vulpes, celsis illius cornibus nixa, puteo evasit; hircum in vado hærentem reliquit. Sic callidi, si in periculum venerint, alterius malo sibi effugium reperire quærunt.

## LVII.

Simonides, poeta egregius, quum urbes Asiæ nobiles circumisset et mercedem magnam pro carminibus accepisset, locuples factus, in patriam redire voluit. Erat autem natus, ut aiunt, in insulâ Ceâ. Navem ascendit,

quam in medio mari tempestas horrida fregit. Nautæ res pretiosas colligunt. Tum quidam curiosior, "Simonide," inquit, "tu ex opibus tuis nil sumis?" At ille, "mecum mea sunt cuncta." Pauci enatant, plures, onere degravati, pereunt. In littore prædones adsunt, rapiunt, quod quisque extulisset, nudos relinquunt. Forte Clazomenæ, urbs antiqua, prope fuit; hanc naufragi petierunt. Hîc quidam literarum studio deditus, qui Simonidis versus sæpe legerat, poetam cupidissimè recepit, veste, nummis, familiâ exornavit. Cæteri tabulam portant, victum rogantes. Quos, casu obvios, quum Simonides vidisset, "Dixi," inquit, "mea mecum esse cuncta; quod vos rapuistis, periit."

#### LVIII.

Idem Simonides mercede certâ cujusdam pugilis victoris laudes canere pactus est. Quum autem propter exiguam materiam vis ingenii languesceret, poetæ licentiâ usus, Castoris et Pollucis laudes operi inseruit. Victor opus laudavit, sed poetæ tertiam tantùm mercedis partem dedit. Reliquum poscenti, "Isti," inquit, "reddent, quos laudâsti. Verùm ne sentiam, te a me iratum discessisse, ad cœnam voco: hodie cognatos invitare volo." Poeta, quamvis fraudatus, et injuriâ dolens, promisit. Rediit hora dicta; splendebat convivium; domus læta resonabat: quum duo repentè juvenes, pulvere sparsi, humano pulchriores, servulo cuidam mandant, ut Simonidem provocet, dicat, 'illius interesse, ne moram faciat.' Homo perturbatus Simonidem excitat; ille vix pedem unum triclinio promoverat, quum cameræ ruina cæteros oppressit; nec ulli juvenes ad januam reperti sunt. Sic Numina poetæ vitam pro mercede dederunt.

#### LIX.

Duo milites in latronem forte inciderunt, quorum unus profugit, restitit alter, et se fortiter defendit. Latrone occiso, comes timidus accurrit, et gladium stringit; dein, pœnulâ rejectâ, "Ubi est," inquit, "iste nequam? mox sentiet, quales viros aggressus sit." Tum ille qui pugnaverat, "Vellem," inquit, "me sic nuper adjuvisses; constantior sanè fuissem: nunc ferrum conde, et tace: falle, si possis, ignorantes; ego scis, quam fugax sis, quam virtuti tuæ non sit credendum."

#### LX.

Oves, canum præsidiæ tutæ, lupos prælio devicerunt; victi legatos miserunt, qui pacem peterent. His conditionibus pax facta est, ut oves dederent canes, et catulos a lupis obsides reciperent. Paullo post, quum catuli ululare cœpissent, lupi, natos suos necari causantes, in oves, jam defensoribus nudatas, impetum fecerunt et facilè dilaniaverunt. Is, qui præsidium suum aliis prodat, mox ipse desiderabit.

#### T.XI.

Perdix altà in arbore sedebat. Advenit vulpes et sic loqui cœpit: "O quanta est, perdix, vultus tui species! Rostrum tuum plus coralio rubet: crura sunt splendidiora purpurà. At si dormires, quanto pulchrior esses!" Illam oculos stultè claudentem vulpes illico rapuit. Tum perdix multo cum fletu verba hæc supplex edit, "O vulpes, per artes tuas te obsecro, ut priùs quam comedas, nomen meum proferas." Vulpes, ubi loqui voluit, os aperuit; aperto ore, perdix necem evasit. Tum vulpes, se objurgans, "Quid mihi loqui opus erat?" Contra perdix, "Et quid mihi dormire necesse erat, cui somnus non venerat?"

#### LXII.

Homo dives et nobilis, ludos facturus, cunctos præmio proposito invitavit, ut quam quisque posset, novitatem Hos inter venit scurra, sale urbano notus, ostenderet. dixitque, se spectaculi genus habere, quod in theatrum nunquam prolatum esset. Vulgato rumore, quum in theatrum tota civitas confluxisset, solus ille in scenâ, sine apparatu, nullis adjutoribus, constare visus est. Tum in sinum caput repente demisit, et porcelli vocem sic imitatus est, ut turba ipsum animal pallio subesse crederet, et excuti juberet. Quo facto, quum nihil repertum esset, hominem plausu maximo omnes prosequuntur. vidit rusticus, se idem postridie meliùs facturum esse professus est. Uterque in scenam prodit; scurra, ut priùs, populi plausus movet. Tum rusticus, verum porcellum vestimentis obtegens, aurem pervellit. Istâ autem editâ . voce, clamat populus, "scurram multo meliùs imitatum esse," rusticum foras trudi jubet. At ille porcellum e sinu profert, et "Hic," inquit, "declarat, quales judices sitis."

#### LXIII.

Themistocles, bello Persico finito, in concione Atheniensium dixit, se habere consilium reipublicæ salutare, sed id sciri opus non esse: postulavit, ut aliquem populus daret, quicum rem communicaret. Datus est Aristides. Huic dicit Themistocles, 'classem Lacedæmoniorum clam incendi posse; hac incensa Atheniensium fore maris imperium.' Quod Aristides quum audisset, in concionem venit, dixitque, 'perutile esse consilium, quod Themistocles afferret, sed minime honestum.' At Athenienses, quod honestum non esset, ne utile quidem putaverunt, totamque eam rem, quam ne audierant quidem, repudiaverunt.

#### LXIV.

Idem Themistocles, quum Xerxes, rex Persarum, Græciam copiis ingentibus invasisset, patriam consilio egregio servavit. Civibus enim suis invitis persuasit, ut, relictâ urbe, se et sua navibus committerent. Nec minus sibi ipsi, quam patriæ, consuluit. Quum enim Græci Persas ad Salamina prœlio navali devicissent, Xerxem admonuit, ut quam citissimè in Asiam confugeret. Quo factum est, ut rex se a Themistocle non victum sed servatum esse crederet. Hunc paullo post, patriâ ob proditionem pulsum, Artaxerxes, Xerxis filius, tantâ benignitate excepit, ut trium urbium vectigalia pro victu tribuerit. At ille, rege novam contra Græcos expeditionem parante, veneno se interemisse fertur. Mori enim, quam patriæ nocere, maluit.

# LXV.

Zeno, Stoicorum philosophorum princeps, fato omnia regi credidit. Servum in furto fortè deprehenderat: eum cædi jussit. Tum servus, "In fatis," inquit, "fuit, ut furarer." Contra Zeno, "In fatis etiam ut cædereris." Aristippum philosophum rogavit quidam, ut filium suum erudiret. Quum ille, pro mercede quingentas drachmas petivisset, pater, pretio deterritus, quod avaro et rudi homini nimium videbatur, "Tanti," inquit, "mancipium emere possum." "Eme," inquit philosophus, "tum duo habebis." Ad Socratem Atheniensis quidam filium misit, rogavitque, ut indolem illius inspiceret. Dixit pædagogus, "Pater ad te, O Socrates, filium misit, ut eum videres." Tum Socrates, "Loquere igitur, adolescens, ut te videam."

#### LXVI.

Plutarcho servus erat, homo nequam et contumax, sed philosophiæ non ignarus. Hunc ob nescio quod delictum dominus loro cædi jussit. Cæperat verberari; ingemuit; exclamavit, 'se nihil mali commisisse.' Deinde vociferari incipit, "hoc Plutarchum non decet; philosophum irasci turpe est. Sæpe de malo iracundiæ disseruisti; librum etiam de hâc re pulcherrimum scripsisti. His omnibus nequaquam convenit, quod nunc facis." Ad hæc Plutarchus lentè et leviter, "Num ego tibi irasci videor? Ex vultune meo, an ex voce, an ex colore, an etiam ex verbis intellegis, me irâ correptum esse?" Et simul ad eum, qui cædebat, conversus, "Interim," inquit, "dum ego et hic disputamus, hoc tu age."

#### LXVII.

Memorant auctores multa a Lacedæmoniis acutè dicta. Olim, quum Thermopylas ingens Persarum exercitus oppugnaret, Lacedæmoniis nuntiatum est, tantam esse hostium multitudinem, ut ipse sol sagittis obscuraretur. "Bene est," respondit quidam, "sub umbrâ pugnabimus." Samiorum legati, auxilium a Lacedæmoniis petentes, oratione longâ usi sunt. Responderunt illi, "Vos pulcherrimè locuti estis, sed priora obliti sumus, posteriora non intelliximus." Legati postero die iterum adeunt hâc tantùm voce, "Nihil habemus," simul vacuam peram ostentant. Ad hoc Lacedæmonii, "Jam intelligimus, sed perâ quid opus erat?"

#### LXVIIL

Lacedæmoniis mos erat pueros quotannis ad aram Dianæ virgis cædere. Neque id invitis pueris erat, qui nihil æquè cupiebant, quam fortis et constantis animi laudem meruisse. Dolorem igitur, quamvis acerbissimum, summå patientiå tolerabant. Nam non modo exclamavere, sed ne ingemuere quidem. Egregium constantiæ documentum puer quidam Lacedæmonius exhibuisse fertur, qui, quum vulpem furatus esset, in ipso facto deprehensus est. Lacedæmonii autem furari non turpe esse judicabant, turpissimum verò furantem deprehendi. Puer igitur vulpem pallio obtexit, nec quanquam dentibus bestiæ ipsa viscera lædebantur, aut vocem rupit, aut ullum in vultu signum doloris prodidit.

#### LXIX.

Alexandro sacrificanti pueri Macedonum nobilissimi præsto erant. Quum ex his unus cum turibulo ante regem astaret, in pueri brachium carbo ardens delapsus est. At ille, quanquam adusti corporis odor ad circumstantium nares pervenit, tamen dolorem silentio pressit, et brachium immobile tenuit. Sacrificium enim regis aut concusso turibulo impedire, aut voce infaustà irritum facere, noluit. Rex, cui pueri patientia admodum placuit, certius perseverantiæ experimentum sumpsit, nam diutius solito sacrificavit. Quod miraculum si Darius animadvertisset, scivisset ejus gentis milites haud vinci posse, quum ipsi pueri tam singulari constantià prædifi essent.

#### LXX.

Codro Athenis regnante, bellum ortum est inter Dorienses et Athenienses. Oraculum Delphis de eventu belli consuluerunt. Responsum est, "Eos fore victores, quorum rex caderet bello." Codrus, hôc audito, habitum pastoralem sumpsit, et hostium castra ingressus est, gerens tergo fasces. Hìc cum milite rixatus est, hominem cultro vulneravit, et ab eo ipse est interfectus. Dorienses, re

cognitâ, discesserunt. Sic Athenienses virtute ducis, se ultro morti offerentis, periculo liberati sunt, neque quenquam dignum putaverunt, qui post talem virum regnaret. Itaque magistratibus commissa est respublica.

### LXXI.

Bos in Sabinis nata est mirandâ magnitudine et specie. Fixa per multas ætates cornua in vestibulo Dianæ monumentum miraculi fuerunt. Cecinere vates, cujus civitatis civis eam Dianæ immolâsset, ibi fore imperium. Nam adhuc inter Romanos et Sabinos erat contentio haud dispar. Hoc carmen ad antistitem fani Dianæ pervenerat. Sabinus, cujus bos erat, ut prima apta dies sacrificio visa est, eam Romam agit, deducit ad fanum Dianæ, ante aram statuit. Ibi antistes Romanus, motus victimæ magnitudine, et responsi memor, Sabinum ita alloquitur, "Quidnam tu, hospes, paras? Incestè Dianæ sacrificium facere? At priùs lavandum est. Infimâ valle præfluit Tiberis." Religione tactus hospes ad Tiberim descendit. Interea Romanus immolat Dianæ bovem. Id mirè gratum regi atque civitati fuit.

#### LXXII.

Causam memorat scriptor quidam Romanus, cur Papirius cognomen Prætextati habuerit. Mos olim Senatoribus Romæ fuit cum filiis prætextatis in curiam introire. Patres quodam die super re gravissimå consultaverant: hæc in diem posterum prolata est: cautum est, ne quis enunciaret. Mater Papirii, qui cum patre in curiâ fuerat, filium percontatur, 'quidnam in senatu Patres egissent.' Puer respondet, 'tacendum esse.' Mulier fit audiendi cupidior, et vehementiùs quærit. Tum puer, urgente matre, hæc fingit: "Actum est," inquit, "utrum reipub-

licæ melius esset, ut unus vir duos uxores habeat, an ut una apud duos nupta sit." Hoc audito, domo illa trepidans egreditur, ad cæteras matronas defert, quod audierat. Postero die magno cum tumultu conveniunt ad senatum matres-familias, orant, ne quid tale fieret. Admirantibus Senatoribus, puer Papirius, in mediam Curiam progressus, rem totam enarrat. Vetuere Patres, ne qui spuer, excepto Papirio, postea in Curiam veniret; huic propter singularem prudentiam cognomen indiderunt.

#### LXXIII.

Arcades duo familiares iter unà faciebant. Quum ad Megaram venissent, alter ad cauponam divertit, ad hospitem alter. Huic dormienti visus est ille alter orare, 'ut subveniret, quia sibi a caupone interitus pararetur.' Is primò, somnio perterritus, surrexit. Tum se collegit, visum pro nihilo habendum esse duxit, recubuit. At dormienti idem ille visus est. "Quoniam," inquit, "mihi vivo non subvenisti, ne mortem inultam esse patiaris. Interfectus sum, et a caupone in plaustrum conjectus: supra stercus injectum est. Tu mane ad portam adsis, priusquam plaustrum ex oppido exeat." Is, somnio commotus, mane ad portam fuit: quæsivit ex bubulco, 'quid in plaustro esset.' Ille perterritus fugit. Mortuus erutus est. Caupo, re patefactà, pœnas dedit.

## LXXIV.

Constat, eâdem nocte Alexandrum Magnum natum esse, quâ templum Ephesiæ Dianæ deflagravit. Ubi lucere cæperat, clamitabant Magi, 'pestem ac perniciem Asiæ proximâ nocte natam.' Ejusdem Alexandri mortem Indus quidam, nomine Calanus, divinitus prædixisse fertur, qui quum in rogum ardentem adscenderet, "O præclarum discessum," inquit, "e vitâ, quum, ut Herculi contigut,

corpore cremato, in lucem animus excesserit." Quumque Alexander juberet 'dicere, quod vellet,' "Optime," inquit, "prope diem te videbo." Quod ita contigit, nam Babylone, paucis post diebus, Alexander est mortuus.

#### LXXV.

Scriptum in historiâ Hamilcarem Carthaginiensem, quum oppugnaret Syracusas, visum esse audire vocem, 'se postridie cœnaturum Syracusis:' quum autem is dies illuxisset, magnam seditionem in castris ejus inter Pænos et Siculos milites esse factam; Syracusanos improvisò in castra irrupisse, Hamilcaremque ab iis vivum esse sublatum. Ita res somnium comprobavit.

#### LXXVI.

P. Decius, quum esset tribunus militum, a Samnitibusque premeretur Romanus exercitus, pericula præliorum inibat audaciùs; monitus est, ut cautior esset. "Visus sum," inquit, "in somnis, quum in mediis hostibus versarer, cum maximâ gloriâ occidere." Et tum quidem incolumis exercitum obsidione liberavit. Post triennium autem, quum consul esset, devovit se, et in aciem Latinorum irrupit armatus, quo ejus facto superati sunt ac deleti Latini.

#### LXXVII

Milo Crotoniensis, athleta illustris, exitum habuit vitæ miserandum. Jam senior, neque adhuc artem athleticam exercens, faciebat iter fortè solus in locis Italiæ silvestribus. Ibi quercum vidit, proximam viæ, patulis rimis hiantem. Voluit experiri, an ullæ sibi reliquæ vires adessent; in hiatum arboris digitos immisit, et quercum diducere et rescindere conatus est. Et mediam quidem partem discidit, divellitque; tum quasi, quod tentavisset,

perfecisset, manus laxavit; cessante vi, partes diductæ rursus coierunt. Manibus ita retentis inclusisque, Milo, a feris dilaceratus, periit.

#### LXXVIII.

Dux quidam Pœnus epistolam super res arcanas scriptam hôc modo abscondit. Pugillares novas, nondum ceră illitas, accepit. Literas in lignum incidit; postea tabulas, uti solitum est, ceră collevit: easque tabulas, tanquam non scriptas, ad amicum misit. Is, ceră derasă, literas incolumes ligno incisas legit. Rem autem hâc longe callidiorem commentus est Histiæus Milesius. Unus e servis oculos ægros diu habuerat. Hujus ex capite capillum, tanquam medendi gratiă, derasit, et in capite levi literarum formas inussit: sic, quæ voluit, scripsit. Hominem postea domi retinuit; postquam adolevit capillus, ire ad amicum jussit, et "Quum ad eum," inquit, "veneris, dicito, me mandâsse, ut caput tuum, sicut nuper egomet feci, deradat."

#### LXXIX.

Ad Cn. Dolabellam, Asiæ Proconsulem, deducta est mulier Smyrnæa. Mulier virum et filium eodem tempore veneno clam dato interfecerat: atque id fecisse se confitebatur. Dicebat enim habuisse se faciendi causam, quoniam idem illi maritus et filius alterum filium mulieris, e viro priore genitum, adolescentem optimum et innocentissimum, occidissent: idque ita esse factum controversia non erat. Dolabella rem ad suos retulit; nemo sententiam ferre in causa tam ancipiti audebat. Reputabant enim veneficium impunè fieri non debere, homines autem sceleratissimos hôc punitos fuisse. Dolabella esse.

rem ad Areopagitas rejecit. Areopagitæ, cognitâ causâ, accusatorem et fœminam quæ accusabatur, centesimo anno adesse jusserunt.

#### LXXX.

Sapientis est publica commoda privatis inimicitiis anteponere. P. Cornelius Rufinus, vir manu strenuus et disciplinæ militaris peritus, sed avarus et rapax, temporibus reipublicæ difficillimis consulatum petebat. Competitores ejus erant imbelles quidam et futiles. Fabricius Luscinus, quanquam mores hominis perosus, summa tamen ope adnisus est, ut Rufino Consulatus deferretur. Mirantibus plerisque, quod hominem avarum, et sibi inimicum, creari Consulem peteret, "Nihil est," inquit Fabricius, "quod miremini: malo a cive compilari, quam ab hoste venire."

# LXXXI.

Protagoras, quum adolescens esset, onera pro mercede vehebat. Is de proximo rure Abdera in oppidum, cujus popularis fuit, ligna brevi funiculo circumdata portabat. Fortè Democritus, civitatis ejusdem civis, quum egredetur extra urbem, videt hominem facilè atque expeditè incedentem; prope accedit; juncturam lignorum scitè factam considerat, petitque ut paullum acquiescat. Quod ubi Protagoras fecit, interrogavit Democritus, 'quis id lignum ita composuisset,' et, quum ille a se compositum esse dixisset, desideravit, uti solveret, ac denuo in eundem modum collocaret. At postquam ille solvit, ac similiter composuit, Democritus, hominis non docti sollertiam demiratus, "Mi adolescens," inquit, "sunt majora, quæ mecum facere possis:" abduxitque eum statim, secumque habuit, et philosophiam docuit.

#### LXXXII.

Euathlus, adolescens quidam dives, ad Protagoram, discendæ eloquentiæ causå, venit. Mercedis, quam poposcit Protagoras, dimidium statim dedit, pepigitque, ut reliquum dimidium daret, quo primo die causam apud judices orâsset et vicisset. Multa sub magistro didicit: sed causas orare noluit; visus est id facere, ne reliquum mercedis daret. Capit consilium Protagoras, ut tum existimabat, astutum. Petit ex pacto mercedem: in Euathlum litem infert. Quum ad judices venissent, tum Protagoras sic exorsus est: "Disce," inquit, "stulte adolescens, mercedem mihi utroque modo solvendam esse. Si litem amittas, merces mihi ex sententiâ debebitur, quia ego vicero: sin ego amittam, merces mihi ex pacto debebitur, quia tu viceris." Ad ea respondit Euathlus: "Disce tu quoque, sapientissime magister, mercedem tibi utroque modo non solvendam esse. Nam si judices pro me pronuntiaverint, nihil tibi ex sententia debebitur, quia ego vicero; sin contra me, nihil tibi ex pacto debebo, quia non vicero." Judices rem injudicatam reliquerunt.

#### LXXXIII.

Histrio apud Græcos fuit celeberrimus, qui gestu et vocis claritudine et venustate cæteris præstabat. Huic nomen erat Polus: tragædias poetarum nobilium scitè actitabat. Is filium unicè amatum morte perdidit. Electram Sophoclis acturus erat. Fabulæ hoc est argumentum. Electræ, Orestis sorori, falsus affertur nuntius, 'fratrem interiisse.' Illa reliquias, ut putat, manibus ferens, interitum plorat. Igitur Polus, lugubrem habitum Electræ indutus, ossa atque urnam a sepulchro tulit filii, et omnia, non simulatione doloris, sed veris lamentis opplevit.

# LXXXIV.

Non facta modò, sed voces etiam petulantiores, Romani puniebant. Namque Appii Cæci filia, a ludis, quos spectaverat, exiens, turbà undique confluentis populi jactata est. Hæc, quum inde egressa esset, dixisse fertur: "Quid nunc passa essem, quantoque arctiùs conflictata essem, si P. Claudius, frater meus, navali prœlium classem navium cum ingenti civium numero non perdidisset? Certè quidem majore nunc copià populi oppressa intercidissem; sed utinam," inquit, "reviviscat frater, aliamque classem in Siciliam ducat, atque istam multitudinem perditum eat, quæ me miseram vexavit!" Ob hæc mulieris verba tam gravia ac tam incivilia mulctam ingentem ei dixerunt Censores.

# LXXXV.

Legati Milesii Athenas, auxilii petendi gratiâ, venerunt; advocaverunt, qui pro se verba ad populum facerent. Demosthenes Milesiorum postulatis acriter respondit, Milesios auxilio indignos esse contendit. Res in posterum diem prolata est. Legati ad Demosthenem venerunt; oraverunt, uti contra ne diceret. Is pecuniam petiit, et quantam petierat abstulit. Postridie, quum res agi ccepta esset, Demosthenes, lana multa collum cervicesque circumvolutus, ad populum prodiit, et dixit, 'se anginam faucium pati, contra Milesios loqui non posse.' Tum e populo unus exclamavit, 'fauces ejus non anginâ sed argento claudi.' Ipse Demosthenes rem celare non potuit; nam, quum Aristodemum, actorem fabularum, interrogasset, 'quantum mercedis, ut ageret, accepisset,' et Aristodemus "talentum," respondisset, "At ego plus," inquit, "accepi ut tacerem."

#### LXXXVI.

Arion, fidicen peritissimus, quum arte suâ divitias ingentes conquisivisset, Corinthum navigabat. Corinthi enim eo tempore rex erat Periander, vir Arioni amicissimus. Navem et navitas, ut notiores amicioresque sibi, Corinthios delegerat: at illi, navi jam in altum provectâ, prædæ pecuniæque cupidi, cepere consilium de Arione necando. Ille pecuniam et cetera sua dedit; ut sibi parcerent, oravit. Hoc tantum valuere preces, ut navitæ eum suis manibus interficere nollent, imperarent ut in mare præceps desiliret. Homo territus, spe omni vitæ perditâ, id unum postea oravit, ut priusquam mortem oppeteret, vestes ornatusque suos induere, et carmen cantare liceret. Subit viros istos feros cupido audiendi; quod oraverat, impetrat. Mox de more cinctus, amictus, ornatus, stans summå in puppe, carmen voce sublatissimå cantavit. Hôc confecto, jecit se procul in profundum. Navitæ, haud dubitantes quin periisset, cursum, quem facere coeperant, tenuerunt. At delphinus repente inter undas adnatavit, fluitantique sese homini subdidit, et eum incolumi corpore et ornatu, Tœnarum in terram Laconicam devexit. Arion ex eo loco Corinthum petivit, talemque Periando regi, qualis a delphino vectus fuerat, sese obtulit. Rem, sicut acciderat, narravit; rex, parum credens, Arionem custodiri jussit. Tum navitas requisivit et dissimulanter interrogavit, 'ecquid audivissent in illis locis, unde venissent, super Arione.' Responderunt illi, hominem, quum inde irent, in terra Italia fuisse, laude et divitiis florere. Inter hee eorum verba exstitit Arion, cum fidibus et indumentis, cum quibus se in mare ejecerat. Navitæ, miraculo stupefacti, facinus suum sunt confessi.

### LXXXVIL

Cyrus, rex Persarum, subactâ Asiâ, bellum Scythis intulit, quibus eo tempore Tomyris regina præerat. Rex, quum in regionem Scythicam aliquantum progressus esset, fugam simulavit, et castra sua, vino et omni genere commeatuum repleta, deseruit. In hæe incidit filius reginæ, cum tertiâ copiarum parte ad insequendos hostes missus. At Cyrus, nocte reversus, Scythas incautos et temulentos ad unum occidit. Nec multi post ipsi Persæ, victoriâ exsultantes, fraude hostili decepti sunt. Nam hi quoque fugam simulaverunt, et Cyrum cum exercitu in angustias pertraxerunt, ubi ferè omnes occisi sunt. Tum Tomyris caput Cyri amputatum in utrem sanguine humano completum conjecisse fertur, et simul dixisse, "Satia te sanguine, quem semper sitîsti."

# LXXXVIIL

Cyro filius Cambyses successit. Is Ægyptum perdomuit; postea verò, factà in Œthiopas expeditione, magnam exercitûs partem, arenis obrutam amisit. Non modò in homines summam crudelitatem exercuit, verùm etiam Deos contumeliis violavit: namque bovem, quem, ut Apin, Ægyptii venerabantur, gladio vulneravit. Creditum est, Cambysem impietatis hujus pœnas dedisse, et hanc ob causam insanià correptum fuisse. Constat quidem, eum insanum fuisse: nam quum multa alia facinora ausus esset, Smerdin, qui ei frater erat unicus, interfici jussit. Viderat in somnio hunc solio assidere, et capite cœlum attingere. Postea verò apparuit, rem longè diversam hôc somnio significatam esse. Quum enim Cambyses, suo gladio vulneratus, in Syrià interiisset, Smerdis quidam, unus e sacerdotibus Medis, qui Magi appellabantur, se

regis nuper defuncti fratrem esse simulans, imperium occupavit. Hunc quidem, quum jam septem menses regnâsset, viri septem Persarum nobilissimi interfecerunt. Ex his Darius, Hystaspis filius, rex factus est.

### LXXXIX.

Darius, jam firmatâ potestate, frustra dissuadentibus amicorum sapientissimis, Scythis bellum inferre statuit. Quum igitur ingentem exercitum ex Asiâ in Europam traduxisset, legatos ad reges Scytharum misit, qui eos ad deditionem hortarentur. Legati dona sine responso retulerunt, murem, ranam, avem, et sagittarum fasciculum. Dubitatum est, quid ea res significaret. Regis enim adulatores ad hunc modum interpretabantur: Scythas Dario dedere et terram, et aquam, et aërem, et arma sua. At Gobryas, vir belli peritissimus, rem his verbis meliùs explicuit: "Nisi, Persæ, in aquam desilitis, quod ranæ facere solent; aut in aërem, ceu aves, subvolatis; aut in terrâ, ceu mures, vosmetipsos absconditis, sagittis nostris peribitis." Quæ interpretatio ab eventu comprobata est. Nam Darius, magnâ exercitus parte amissâ, ad Istrum flumen, quod ponte conjunxerat, ægrè rediit.

### XC.

Darius, ad flumen Istrum reversus, pontem incolumem invenit. At hic magno in periculo fuerat. Operis enim, dum ipse abesset, custodes reliquit principes, quos secum ex Ioniâ et Œolide duxerat: his enim imperia urbium dederat; hos fidelissimos fore sperabat, quibus, se oppresso, nulla spes salutis relinqueretur. Neque res aliter evenit. Quum enim crebri afferrent nuntii, Darium malè rem gerere, premique ab Soythis, Miltiades, unus e principibus, hortatus est pontis custodes, 'ne a fortuna datam occasionem.

liberandæ Græciæ dimitterent; ponte rescisso, regem cum copiis, quas secum transportaverat, interiturum, itaque non solum Europam fore tutam, sed etiam Græcos, qui Asiam incolerent, liberos a Persarum dominatione futuros.' At consilio Histiæus Milesius obstitit, dixitque, 'non idem ipsis ac multitudini expedire; Dario exstincto, ipsos, potestate expulsos, civibus suis pænas daturos.' Hujus quum sententiam plurimi secuti essent, Miltiades, non dubitans ad regis aures consilia sua perventura esse, Athenas demigravit. Cujus ratio, etsi non valuit, tamen magnopere est laudanda, quum amicior omnium libertati, quam suæ fuerit dominationi.

### XCI.

Urbs Babylon, a Cyro subacta, quum a Dario defecisset, fide et consilio Zopyri cujusdam recepta est. Hic regem quodam die adiit, naso et auribus truncus, et verberibus fœdatus. Quæsivit rex indignabundus, 'quis tali injuriâ virum nobilem affecisset.' Respondit ille, 'seipsum fecisse, consilium excogitâsse, quo Babylon capi posset,' et rem Dario aperuit. Deinde specie transfugæ in Babylonem intrat, vulnera monstrat, se a rege Dario laceratum esse affirmat. Babylonii autem, quum virum belli esse peritissimum invenissent, inter duces deligunt; credunt enim eum nihil æquè, quam ultionem, cupere; nihil de fide dubitant: denique, quum iterum atque iterum prosperè pugnâsset, summam belli ei committunt. At ille, omnia jam in potestate suâ habens, exercitum et urbem Dario prodidit.

## XCII.

Haud multo post quam Miltiades in patriam rediisset, Darius, hortantibus amicis, ut Greeciam in suam potestatem redigeret, classem quingentarum navium com-

paravit; eique Datim et Artaphernem præfecit. captâ Eretriâ, insulæ Eubœæ urbe, ad Atticam accesserunt, et suas copias in campum Marathona deduxerunt. Athenienses nuntium Lacedæmonem miserunt, qui auxilium peteret; decem prætores creaverunt, qui exercitui præessent. In his erat Miltiades; illo hortante, prœlium committere statuunt. Miserat civitas Platensium mille militum; horum adventu decem millia armatorum completa sunt. Hos Miltiades ex urbe eduxit. Persæ contra, quibus erant peditum centum, equitum decem millia, aciem instruxerunt. Athenienses, clamore sublato, impetum in hostes fecerunt, qui, quamvis tantâ audaciâ perculsi, fortiter tamen excepere. Mediam Græcorum aciem barbari perruperunt, cornu utrumque fusum est. Postremò omnes ad naves confugerunt, persequentibus Atheniensibus, qui ipsam hostium classem comburere conati sunt. In hôc opere viri plerique fortissimi ceciderunt, inter quos erat Cynegirus, Æschyli poetæ frater: is dexterâ, dein sinistrâ manu navem Persicam apprehendit; quum manus utraque securi abscissa esset, dentes infixit, itaque interfectus est. Post prœlium venerunt duo millia Lacedæmoniorum, qui, quum campum spectavissent, et Athenienses laudavissent, domum rediere.

#### XCIII.

Pausanias, rex Lacedæmoniorum, quum res multas contra Persas egregiè gessisset, superbè agere cœpit. Apparatu regio utebatur, veste Medicâ: satellites Medi et Ægyptii sequebantur: more Persarum epulabatur: aditum petentibus non dabat: consilia cum patriæ, tum sibi inimica capiebat. Regi enim Persico pollicitus est, se Græciam universam sub potestatem ejus redacturum. Domum jussu Lacedæmoniorum reversus, ab Ephoris in vincula publica conjectus est. Hino tamen se expedivit; at mox

scelus, quod in patriam parabat, hôc modo patefactum est Adolescentulus quidam, nomine Argilius, epistolam ab eo ad Artabazum Satrapam acceperat. Is suspicatus est, aliquid in ea de se esse scriptum, quod nemo eorum redierat, qui super tali causa eodem missi erant. Itaque epistolæ vincula laxavit, signoque detracto cognovit, si pertulisset, sibi esse pereundum. Has ille literas Ephoris tradidit: jussu eorum in fanum Neptuni, in Tænaro promontorio positum, confugit, et in arâ consedit. Hanc juxta, locum fecerunt Ephori sub terrâ, ex quo posset audiri si quis quid loqueretur cum Argilio. Pausanias, ut audivit Argilium confugisse in aram, perturbatus ed venit, et causam quærit. Huic ille, quid ex literis comperisset, aperit. Tanto magis Pausanias perturbatus orare coepit, ne rem enuntiaret, magna tacenti præmia promittit; mox, Argilio placato, ut putabat, Lacedæmonem revertitur. In itinere, quum jam prope esset, ut caperetur, e vultu cujusdam Ephori, qui eum admonere cupiebat, insidias sibi fieri intellexit. Itaque paucis ante gradibus, quam qui sequebantur, in ædem Minervæ, quæ Chalciœcos vocatur. confugit. Hinc ne exire posset, statim valvas ædis obstruxerunt, tectumque sunt demoliti, quo faciliùs sub divo interiret. Mater Pausaniæ, jam grandæva, postquam de scelere filii comperit, in primis lapidem ad introitum ædis attulisse fertur. Sic Pausanias magnam belli gloriam turpi morte maculavit.

# XCIV.

Cimon, Miltiadis filius, vir rei militaris peritissimus, liberalitate fuit pæne incredibili. Nam, quum compluribus locis prædia hortosque haberet, nunquam in eis, fructûs servandi gratiâ, custodes imposuit. Semper eum pedissequi cum nummis sunt secuti, ut haberet, quod indigentibus statim daret, ne differendo videretur negare.

Seepe quum aliquem videret minùs bene indutum, suum amiculum dedit. Quotidie sic cœna ei coquebatur, ut, quos invocatos vidisset in foro, omnes devocaret. Nulli fides ejus, nulli opera defuit. Multos locupletavit, complures pauperes mortuos suo sumptu extulit. Is, in insulam Cyprum cum ducentis navibus imperator missus, quum insulæ majorem partem devicisset, morbo interiit.

#### XCV.

Alcibiades Atheniensis patriam suam Lacedæmoniorum dominatione liberare voluit. Sed videbat id sine rege Persarum effici non posse: ideoque eum amicum sibi cupiebat adjungi. Quod quum sensissent Lacedæmonii, Pharnabazo Satrapæ persuaserunt, ut Alcibiadem, quanquam sui et regis hospitem, interficeret. Is igitur in Phrygiam, ubi tunc erat Alcibiades, misit quosdam, qui virum trucidarent. Illi, quum eum ferro aggredi non auderent, noctu ligna contulerunt circa casam, in quâ quiescebat, eamque succenderunt: ut incendio conficerent, quem manu superari posse diffidebant. Ille autem, ut sonitu flammæ est excitatus, etsi gladius ei erat subductus, familiaris sui subalare telum eripuit. Namque erat cum eo quidam ex Arcadiâ hospes, qui nunquam discedere · voluerat. Hunc sequi se jubet, et quod vestimentorum prope fuit, arripuit. His in ignem conjectis flammæ vim transiit. Quem ut barbari incendium effugisse viderunt, telis missis interfecerunt, caputque ejus ad Pharnabazum retulerunt. Corpus autem mulier quædam, incenso ædificio, cremavit.

#### XCVI.

Phæbidas Lacedæmonius, quum exercitum Olynthum duceret, iterque per Thebas faceret, arcem oppidi, quæ Cadmes vocatur, occupavit, suadentibus perpaucis Thebas

norum. Quo facto, Lacedæmonii eum ab exercitu removerunt, neque eo magis arcem Thebanis reddiderunt : sed amicis suis summam potestatem dederunt, alteriusque factionis principes partim interfecerunt, partim in exsilium At duodecim exules, quorum dux erat Pelopidas, civitatem liberaverunt. Hi Athenis, and se contulerant, cum canibus venaticis exierunt, retia ferentes, vestitu agresti; Thebas, vesperascente cœlo, pervenerunt. Magistratuum autem Thebanorum statim in aures pervenerat, exsules in urbem devenisse. Id illi, vino epulisque dediti, despexerunt. Allata est etiam epistola Archiæ, qui tum maximum magistratum Thebis obtinebat, in quâ omnia de profectione exsulum perscripta erant. Quæ quum jam accubanti in convivio esset data, sub pulvinum subjiciens, "In crastinum," inquit, "differo res severas." At illi omnes, cum jam nox processisset, vinolenti ab exsulibus, duce Pelopidâ, sunt interfecti.

#### XCVII.

Agesilaus, rex Lacedæmoniorum, quum Epaminondas post prœlium Leuctrense Spartam oppugnaret, essetque sine muris oppidum, consilio egregio patriam conservavit. Adolescentuli quidam, hostium adventu perterriti, ad Thebanos transfugere voluerunt, locum extra urbem editum ceperant. Agesilaus, perniciosissimum fore ratus, si animadversum esset, quenquam ad hostes transfugere conari, cum suis eð venit; laudavit consilium eorum, quod eum locum occupavissent; dixit, 'se quoque animadvertisse, id fieri debere.' Sic adolescentulos simulatā laudatione recuperavit, quosdam de suis adjunxit, et locum tutum reliquit.

### XCVIII.

Phryges olim, discordiá civili vexati, oraculum de mali remedio consuluerunt. Responsum est ab oraculo; 'illia

rege opus esse; eum pro rege acciperent, quem primum inde egressi plaustro insidentem invenissent.' Exeuntibus occurrit Gordius quidam, homo pauper, qui cum conjuge et liberis plaustro vehebatur. Hunc continuò regem salutant, et in templum Jovis deducunt. Rex novus in templo plaustrum, nodo inexplicabili colligatum, Deo sacravit. Post multa sæcula Alexander, rex Macedoniæ, urbe Gordio in ditionem suam redactâ, Jovis templum intrat: vehiculum, in quo rex iste priscus vectus fuerat, aspicit. Affirmabant incolæ; 'ejus fore Asiæ imperium, qui inexplicabile vinculum solvisset; hanc sortem ab oraculo antiquitus editam esse.' Incessit regem sortis implendæ cupido. Circumstabat anxia Phrygum et Macedonum turba. Quippe seriés vinculorum ita astricta erat, ut nullo modo percipi posset, unde nexus inciperet, aut quò se conderet. Ille nequaquam diu luctatus cum latentibus nodis. "Nihil," inquit, "interest, quomodo solvantur," et gladio lora omnia rupit. Hôc modo oraculi sortem vel elusit vel explevit.

#### XCIX.

Alexander, Cydnum, amnem frigidissimum, temere ingressus, graviter ægrotabat. Erat inter medicos Philippus quidam, natione Acarnan, fidus admodum regi. Is promisit, 'se vim morbi potione medicatâ levaturum esse.' Nulli promissum placebat, nisi regi ipsi, qui moram pati nolebat, remedium strenuum poscebat. Inter hæc literas a Parmenione, amico fidissimo, accipit. Monebat ille, 'ne Philippo salutem committeret: hunc a Dario donis ac promissis corruptum esse.' Rex animo rem diu versat; medico crederet, annon, dubitat. Inter has cogitationes illuxit a medico destinatus dies, et ille cum poculo, in quo medicamentum diluerat, intravit. Tum Alexander, epixtolam a Parmenione missam sinistrà manu tenena, accipit.

poculum, et haurit interritus; hôc facto, jubet Philippum epistolam legere: a vultu legentis oculos non movet. Ille, epistolâ perlectâ, plus indignationis, quam pavoris, ostendit: vultu et dictis lætum regem et bonæ spei plenum fecit. Tanta fuit vis medicaminis, ut ea, quæ monuerat Parmenio, per aliquot horas vera esse viderentur. Rex enim tanquam mortuus jacebat; at mox animi et corporis rediit vigor. Post tertium diem in conspectum militum venit. Nec avidiùs regem ipsum, quam Philippum, intuebatur exercitus; quisque dextram medici amplexus est, et, tanquam præsenti Deo, gratias egit.

C.

Darius ab Alexandro apud Issum, Ciliciæ oppidum, devictus, in Persidem, comitantibus paucis, confugit: matrem, uxorem, et liberos in potestate hostis reliquit. Quum rex post prœlium epularetur, e proximo tabernaculo lugubris clamor repente exortus est. Namque unus e captivis amiculum, quod Darius fugiens abjecerat, reportaverat: crediderunt mulieres ipsum regem cecidisse. Alexander, muliebri dolore commotus, ipse flevisse fertur. Primò quidem Mithrenen, qui Sardes tradiderat, ut Persicæ linguæ peritum, ad consolandas eas ire jusserat: at postea veritus, ne proditoris aspectus captivarum iram et dolorem renovaret, jubet Leonatum, virum Macedonem, nuntiare, 'vivere Darium,' It Leonatus: vident armatum satellites, clamant, 'missos esse, qui captas occiderent,' et in interiora tabernaculi ruunt. Sequitur Leonatus; tunc mater et conjux Darii ad pedes ejus provolvuntur; orant, 'ut permittat ipsis Darii corpus, more Persico, sepelire.' Tum Leonatus, "Vivit adhuc Darius; et vos non modò incolumes estis, verum etiam, ut priùs, reginæ." Proximo die venit Alexander; eum comitatur Hephæstion, ex amicis carissimus, qui ætate par erat regi, corporis habitu præstabat. Reginæ, illum regem esse ratæ, suo more veneratæ sunt. Monstrantibus captivis, quis Alexander esset, Darii mater pedibus ejus advoluta est, errorem excusans. Tum Alexander, eam simul manu benignè allevans, "Non errâsti," inquit, "mater, nam et hic quoque Alexander est." Postea rex usus est summå erga captivas reverentiå et temperantiå.

# CI.

Alexander Hephæstioni permisit, ut in Sidone regem constitueret, quem imperio dignissimum arbitraretur. Erant Hephæstioni hospites, clari inter suos juvenes. His regnum defert: nemo vult accipere; affirmant omnes. patriis institutis vetitum esse, ne quis, nisi stirpe regiâ ortus, imperium occuparet. Rogat deinde Hephæstion, ut virum potestate hâc dignum monstrent. Statuunt juvenes, neminem potiorem esse, quam Abdalonymum quendam, regio quidem generi distanti affinitate conjunctum, sed qui, inopiæ causâ, hortum suburbanum colebat. Causa ei paupertatis, sicut plerisque, probitas fuit; intentusque operi strepitum armorum, qui totam Asiam concusserat, non audiverat. Juvenes cum insignibus regiis hortum intrant, in quo Abdalonymus herbas steriles eligebat. Regem salutant, vestem induere jubent. Ille primum se rideri putat; mox, quum rem intellexisset, potestatis insignia accipit. Tunc unus e salutantibus, "Quum solio regali assidebis, cave obliviscaris hujus statûs, in quo regnum accipis." Fama totâ urbe discurrit; plerique indignantur; præcipua est divitum ira. Tum Alexander jubet eum admitti, diuque contemplatus, "Corporis," inquit, "habitus generi tuo non discrepat: sed libet scire, quâ patientiâ inopiam tuleris." Tum Abdalonymus, "Utinam," inquit, "eodem animo imperium pati possim! Hæ manus suffecere desiderio meo. Nihil habenti nihil defuit." Neque, hôc audito, dubitavit Alexander, quin vir, paupertate contentus, optime regnaturus esset.

#### CII.

Ubi ad fines Scytharum Alexander pervenit, unus e legatis injustitiam ejus et nimiam dominationis cupiditatem his verbis incusâsse fertur. "Quid nobis tecum est? Nunquam tuam terram attigimus. Nec servire ulli possumus, neque aliis imperare cupimus. Quanquam sis omnium mortalium maximus et fortissimus, dominum tamen alienigenam pati non volumus. Tu, qui te gloriaris ad latrones persequendos venisse, omnium gentium, quas adiisti, latro es. Lydiam cepisti, Syriam occupâsti, Persidem tenes, Bactrianos in potestate habes; jam etiam ad pecora nostra manus avaras porrigis. Quid tibi prosunt divitiæ istæ, quæ te acriùs esurire faciunt? Ipsa tibi satietas famems parat; quo plura habes, eo vehementius, quæ non habeas, cupis. Si Deus es, tribuere mortalibus beneficia debes, non sua adimere; sin homo es, semper te esse hominem cogita."

#### CIII.

Clitum, Sogdianæ regioni nuper præpositum, Alexander solemni convivio adhibuit. Hic rex, quum multo incaluisset mero, celebrare, quæ ipse gesserat, laudes Philippi, patris sui, obterere cæpit. Hæc et his similia juniores læti audiebant; ingrata senioribus erant, propter Philippum, sub quo diutius vixerant. Tum Clitus, ne ipse quidem satis sobrius, ad eos, qui infra ipsum cubabant, Euripidis retulit carmen, ita ut sonus magis quam sermo exaudiri posset a rege. Versu hoc significatum est, 'male tropæis regum duntaxat nomina inscribi; a regibus gloriam, alieno sanguine partam, intercipi.' Percontatur

rex proximos, 'quid a Clito audîssent.' Silentibus illis, Clitus paullatim majore voce 'Philippi acta bellaque in Græciâ gesta' commemorat ; denique non vino modò, sed etiam animi pravâ contentione provectus, "Si moriendum," inquit, "est pro te, Clitus est primus; at victoriæ præcipua ferunt præmia, qui procacissimè patris tui memoriæ illudant. Sogdianam mihi regionem attribuis, toties rebellem, et non modo indomitam, sed quæ ne subigi quidem possit. Sed quæ ad me pertinent, Philippi milites spernis. At verum est, ut transeo. opinor, quod avunculus tuus in Italiâ dixit, 'ipsum in viros, te in fœminas incidisse.' Rex dolorem pressit: tantum jussit, ut e convivio excederet. Illum cunctantem proximi conabantur abducere. Clitus, quum abstraheretur, contumelias in regem turpiores jaciebat. Tum Alexander ex lecto repente prosiluit. Attoniti amici, ne positis quidem, sed abjectis poculis, consurgunt. Alexander, raptâ lanceâ ex manibus armigeri, Clitum adhuc eâdem linguæ intemperantiâ furentem, percutere conatur; sed a Ptolemæo et Perdiccâ inhibetur. Hi regem medium amplectuntur; Lysimachus et Leonatus etiam lanceam abstulerant. Clamat ille, 'comprehendi se a proximis amicorum, quod Dario nuper accidisset;' jubetque, 'signum tuba dari, ut ad regiam milites armati coirent.' Tum verò Ptolemæus et Perdiccas genibus advoluti erant, 'ne in tam præcipiti irâ perseveret; spatiumque animo det; omnia postero die justiùs exsecuturum.' Sed clausæ erant aures, obstrepente irâ; impotens igitur animi in vestibulum regiæ percurrit, et, arreptâ hastâ, constitit in aditu, quo necesse erat iis, qui simul cœnaverant, egredi. Abierant cæteri, Clitus ultimus sine lumine exibat. Quem rex, 'quisnam esset,' truci voce interrogat. Respondit ille, 'Clitum esse et de convivio exire.' Heec dicentis latus hasta transfixit. "I nunc," inquit, "ad Philippum et Parmenionem et Attalum." Nam Clitus, Parmenionem et Attalum, ab Alexandro interfectos, laudando, ingenium regis præcipuè irritaverat. Confecto scelere, horror interfectoris animum subit. Hastam suo admovet pectori: sed advolant vigiles et e manu extorquent. Tum regiam omnem gemitu complet. Triduum sine cibo jacuit; amici precibus reluctantem ægrè vicerunt, ut vivere vellet.

### CIV.

Alexander, quum Indiam invasisset, reges multos in deditionem accepit. Sic ad Hydaspem flumen perventum est. Hujus in ulteriore ripâ Porus consederat, Indorum longè potentissimus, transitu prohibiturus hostem. Alexander jubet Ptolemæum 'cum omnibus turmis obequitare, et Indos clamore terrere, quasi flumen transnaturus foret.' Ipse cum majore exercitûs parte clam digressus, ripam ulteriorem sine pugnâ occupat. Mox prælium commissum Nihil tam Macedonas perculit, quam elephantorum aspectus, quibus Porus aciem suam firmaverat. Ipse rex, qui belluâ vehebatur, immani erat corporis magnitudine. Itaque Alexander, contemplatus et regem et agmen Indorum, "Tandem," inquit, "par animo meo periculum video; cum bestiis simul et cum egregiis viris res est." Pellebatur eques Indorum, quum Porus 'belluas agi' jussit. Hæ, quum tardè advenissent, magnum injecere terrorem. Jam fugæ circumspiciebant locum paullo ante victores, quum Alexander leviter armatos Thracas emisit in belluas. Diu pugnatum est: tandem elephanti vulneribus fatigati, suos impetu sternunt, et ultra aciem exiguntur. Porus, destitutus a pluribus, dum tela ex elephanto suo in circumfusos ingerit, ipse undique petitur. Novem jam vulnera acceperat: rector belluæ regem jam deficientem conspexit, et eam in fugam concitat, sequente Alexandro: hujus autem equus, multis vulneribus confossus, procubuit. Interea frater Taxilis, regis Indorum, præmissus ab Alexandro, monere cœpit Porum, 'ut se victori dederet.' Tum Porus "Agnosco," inquit, "Taxilis fratrem, regnique sui proditorem;" et telum, quod restabat unum, contorsit in eum, quod per medium pectus penetravit ad tergum. Mox telis gravatus ex belluâ labi cœpit. Indus, qui elephantum regebat, descendere eum ratus, more solito elephantum 'procumbere' jussit 'in genua.' Sic Porus captus est ab hostibus. Alexander 'spoliari corpus Pori' jussit, interemtum esse credens: tum bellua dominum tuetur, spoliantes appetit, levatumque corpus eius dorso suo imponit. Eâ statim confossâ. Porus in vehiculum imponitur. Rogavit Alexander, ut vidit allevantem oculos, non odio, sed miseratione commotus, "Quæ te amentia coegit belli fortunam experiri?" At ille, "Neminem me fortiorem censebam. Meas enim noveram vires, nondum expertus tuas." Tum Alexander, "Quid censes me de te statuere debere ?" Huic Porus, "Quod tibi hic suadet dies; hodie enim expertus es, quam caduca sit felicitas." Alexander ægrum diligenter curavit: postea in amicorum numerum recepit; mox donavit ampliore regno, quam priùs tenuerat.

## CV.

Alexander legatos quosdam Indos ad convivium ornatissimum vocaverat. Intererat epulis Dioxippus Atheniensis, pugil nobilis, et ob vires eximias regi pernotus et gratus. Invidi malignique increpabant, 'sequi inutilem belluam, quum ipsi prœlium inirent.' Eodem in convivio Horratas Macedo exprobrare ei cœpit, et postulare, 'ut si vir esset, postero die secum ferro decerneret.' Et a Dioxippo accepta est conditio. Postero die, rex, quum etiam acriùs certamen exposcerent, quia deterrere non poterat., destinata exsequi passus est. Ingens huc militum conve

nerat multitudo; plerique aderant Græci, qui Dioxippo studebant. Macedo justa arma sumpserat, æreum habuit clypeum, hastam lævå tenens, dextrå lanceam, gladioque cinctus est. Dioxippus, oleo nitens et coronatus, lævå amiculum puniceum, dextrå validum nodosumque stipitem præferebat. Ea ipsa res omnium animos expectatione suspenderat; quippe armato congredi nudum non temeritas, sed dementia videbatur. Primus Macedo lanceam emisit: hanc Dioxippus levi corporis declinatione vitavit: antequam ille hastam in dextram transferret, assiluit, et mediam eam fregit. Amisso utroque telo, Macedo gladium cæperat stringere: sed jam stringentem Dioxippus prævenit, medium amplexus est, et humi prostravit. Erepto gladio, pedem super jacentis cervicem imposuit, eumque interfecisset, nisi a rege prohibitus esset.

# CVI.

Perdomitâ Asiâ, Alexander Babylonem rediit. Frustra monuerant Chaldæi, ne urbem fatalem intraret. Ibi legatos, qui ex universo ferme orbe, confluxerant, ad se admisit audivitque; mox Hephæstionis amici, paullo ante morbo perempti, magnificentissimas exsequias celebravit. Tum commissationibus perpetuis fatigatus ægrotare cœpit; gravescente morbo, vis omnis exhausta est; sexto die vix loqui potuit. Milites sollicitudine et desiderio anxii ad conspectum ejus sunt admissi. Quum rex flentes aspexisset, "Num invenietis," inquit, "dignum talibus viris regem?" Ab universo exercitu salutatus est; vulgo dimisso, fatigata membra rejecit. 'Propiùs adire' jussis amicis (nam et vox deficere jam cœperat), annulum digito detraxit, et Perdicce tradidit. Quærentibus his 'cui relinqueret regnum," "Relinquo," inquit, "ei, qui sit optimus. Non improvisum est hoc certamen. Magni mihi parantur ludi funebres." Neque multo post mortuus est. Par fuit Persarum et Macedonum dolor. Hi optimum et fortissimum regem, illi justissimum ac mitissimum dominum lugebant. Præcipuè mœrebat Darii mater, quæ capite obvoluto, preces suorum aversata, cibo pariter et luce abstinuit; quinto, postquam mori statuerat, die exstincta est. Statuerat post Darium vivere, Alexandro esse superstes erubuit.

#### CVII.

Alexandro vis erat animi incredibilis, summa laboris patientia; fortitudo non inter reges modò excellens, sed inter illos quoque, quorum hæc sola virtus fuit. Tam liberalis fuit, ut sæpe majora tribueret, quam a Diis petuntur. Magnå elementiå in victos utebatur, nam regna quamplurima aut reddidit, quibus ea bello dempserat, aut dono dedit. Mortem, cujus metus oceteros exanimat, contemnebat. Gloriæ fuit et laudis nimis cupidus (sed hoc in juvene et in tantis rebus ignoscendum erat); in amicos benignus, in milites benevolus, donec fortuna corruptus esset. Tum Diis se æquare, et cœlestes honores vindicare, et venerari dedignantibus irasci cœpit; tum imitari devictarum gentium mores, quas ante victoriam spreverat; tum vini esse intemperans, et iræ immodicus. At hæc, quæ juventus irritaverat, senectus mitigare potuisset. Tantus denique fuit, ut quum successor quæreretur, nemo repertus sit, qui tantam imperii molem subiret.

## CVIII.

Nero, principatûs sui initio, neque liberalitatis, neque clementiæ, nec comitatis quidem exhibendæ ullam occasionem amisit. Graviora vectigalia aut abolevit aut minuit; præmia delatorum ad quartas redegit; populo viritim cocc. nummos divisit. Fertur etiam dixisse, quam quidam capite damnatus esset, et ille admoneratur, ut ex

more subscribet, "Quam vellem nescire literas!" Senatui gratias agenti respondit, "Tunc gratias agite, quum meruero." At hic paucos post annos mortalium crudelissimus ac pravissimus est factus. Præceptorem enim Senecam, fratrem Britannicum, matrem ipsam Agrippinam trucidavit. Denique, desciscentibus provinciis, a Prætorianis quoque militibus destitutus, morte voluntariâ obiit.

#### CIX.

Nero, quum viros plerosque nobilissimos, et amicos propinquosque suos trucidavisset, rem prope incredibilem ausus est. Nam, quasi offensus deformitate veterum ædificiorum, ipsam urbem incendit. Per sex dies, septemque noctes ignis sæviit. In monumenta ac busta plebs compulsa est. In eo incendio, præter immensum ædium privatarum numerum, domus priscorum ducum arserunt, hostilibus adhuc spoliis adornatæ, et templa Deorum ab regibus, ac deinde Punicis et Gallicis bellis, vota et dedicata. Hoc incendium e turre quadam prospectavit, lætusque "flammæ," ut aiebat, "pulchritudine," expugnationem Ilii, scenicum habitum gerens, decantavit. At postea incendii culpam in Christianos conjecit. Hos pænis crudelissimis affecit.

#### CX.

Tumultu in urbe facto, Nero in villam suburbanam confugit. Illic, omni jam spe amissâ, mortem sibi consciscere statuit. Scrobem fodi jussit, corporis sui mensuræ aptam; et aquam et ligna conferri, quibus mox cadaver curaretur. Ad singula flevit, identidem dictans, "Qualis artifex pereo?" Optimus enim cantor et citharædus et poeta sibi ipsi videbatur. Mox nuntiatum est, 'hostem a Senatu judicatum esse, et quæri, ut more majorum puni-

retur.' Quæsivit e præsentibus, 'quale id genus esset pænæ.' Quum comperisset, 'nudi hominis cervicem inseri furcæ, corpus virgis usque ad necem cædi,' conterritus duos pugiones, quos secum extulerat, arripuit. Tentatâ utriusque acie, iterum condidit, causatus, 'nondum adesse fatalem horam.' Modò Sporum hortabatur, ut lamentari ac plangere inciperet; modò orabat, ut se aliquis ad mortem fortiter capessendam exemplo juvaret : interdum segnitiem suam increpabat. Jamque equites appropinquabant, quibus præceptum erat, ut vivum eum attraherent. Quod ut sensit, ferrum jugulo adegit, juvante Epaphrodito. Statim irrupit Centurio, et pœnulam ad vulnus apposuit, quasi sanguinem restinguere vellet. Huic ille jam moribundus nihil aliud respondit, quam "Sero," et "Hæc est fides tua." In ea voce defecit. Obiit secundo et tricesimo ætatis anno, illo ipso die, quo quondam Octaviam uxorem interemerat.

#### CXI.

M. Otho, qui vitam mollem et luxuriosam egerat, exitum habuit famæ suæ priori minimè congruentem. Nam, quum exercitum suum Bedriaci fusum esse audivisset, bellum civile morte suâ finire statuit. Egregium militis exemplum ducis fortitudinem confirmâsse fertur. Hic cladem, quam acceperat exercitus, nuntiaverat. Quum crederet nemo, multi ut profugum et mendacem increparent, gladio ante pedes Imperatoris incubuit. Hôc viso, exclamavit Otho, 'non ampliùs se in periculum viros tales tamque bene meritos conjecturum.' Fratrem igitur, et fratris filium, et singulos amicorum cohortatus est, ut suæ quisque saluti consuleret. Serâ demum nocte sitim gelidæ aquæ haustu sedavit. Tum arripuit duos pugiones, et exploratâ utriusque acie, alterum pulvino subdidit. Post. hoe noctem quietam neque insomnem egit. Circa lucem

expergefactus uno se trajecit ictu infra lævam papillam. Ad gemitum morientis liberti irruperunt, et jam exanimum invenerunt. Obiit trigesimo et octavo ætatis anno.

### CXII.

Titus, Vespasiani Imperatoris filius, amor et deliciæ generis humani appellatus est. Huic erat forma egregia, præcipuum robur, et vis memoriæ singularis. Regnante patre, laude militari floruit; nam Judæam perdomuit, et Hierosolyma, urbem et naturâ et arte munitissimam, cepit. In regno patris quædam crudeliter et petulanter fecisse fertur; at imperium adeptus præter spem omnium se clementem et sobrium et liberalem præbuit. Convivia instituit jucunda magis quam profusa. Amicos elegit, quibus etiam post eum principes usi sunt. Neminem a se sine spe ea, quæ petivisset, assequendi dimittebat. Admonentibus domesticis, 'quasi plura polliceretur, quam præstare posset,' respondit, "Non oportet, quenquam a sermone principis tristem discedere." Recordatus quondam apud cœnam, quod nihil cuiquam toto die præstitisset, memorabilem illam et meritò laudatam vocem edidit, "Amici, perdidi diem." Pontificatum adeptus, neminem postea interfecit, aiebat enim, 'periturum se potius quam perditurum.' Duos patricios, imperium affectantes, tantum monuit, 'Imperio fato dari,' promisitque, 'si quid præterea desiderarent, se tributurum.' Confestim ad alterius matrem, quæ procul berat, cursores suos misit, qui 'salvum esse filium' nuntiarent. Inter hæc morte præventus est majore hominum damno quam suo.

### CXIII.

M. Tullius Cicero, quum Quæsturam in Siciliâ diligentissimè exercuisset, in Italiam rediit. "Putabam," inquit ipse, "nihil aliud homines Romæ, quam de Quæsturâ meâ, Frumenti in summâ caritate maximum numerum miseram; negotiatoribus comis, municipibus liberalis, sociis abstinens, omnibus eram visus in omni officio diligentissimus. Excogitati quidem a Siculis erant honores inauditi. Fortè decedens e provincià Puteolos veneram, in quo loco plurimi ac lautissimi esse solent. Concidi pæne, quum ex me quidam quæsivisset, 'quo die urbe exissem, et numquid in ea esset novi.' Cui quum respondissem, 'me a provincia decedere;' "Etiam, mehercule," inquit, "ex Africâ." Huic ego jam stomachans, "Immo ex Siciliâ," inquam. Tum quidam, quasi omnia sciret, "Quid?" inquit, "tu nescis hunc Syracusis Quæstorem fuisse?" Destiti stomachari, et feci me unum ex iis qui ad aquas venerant.

#### CXIV.

C. Canius, eques Romanus, se Syracusas, otiandi (ut ipse dicere solebat) non negotiandi causa, contulit. dictitabat, 'se hortulos aliquos velle emere, quò invitare amicos posset.' Quod quum percrebuisset, Pythius quidam, argentarius, ei dixit, "Venales quidem hortos non habeo; sed meis licet uti, ut tuis." Simul ad cœnam hominem in hortos invitavit in posterum diem. Promisit ille. Tum Pythius piscatores ad se convocavit, petivitque ab eis, ut ante hortulos suos postridie piscarentur; dixitque quid eos facere vellet. Ad cœnam tempore dicto venit Canius; videt cymbarum multitudinem; piscatores, quod ceperant, afferebant; ante pedes Pythii pisces abjiciebantur. Tunc Canius, "Quæso," inquit, "quid est hoc, Pythi? Tantumne piscium, tantumne cymbarum?" Et ille, "Quid mirum?" inquit. "Hoc loco est Syracusis quidquid est piscium." Incensus Canius cupiditate hortulos vult emere; emit tanti, quanti Pythius voluit. Invitat postridie familiares suos. Ipse maturè venit; ne scalmum quidem videt. Quærit ex proximo vicino, 'num feriæ quædam piscatorum essent, quòd neminem videret.' "Nullæ (quod sciam)," inquit ille; "sed hic piscari nulli solent; itaque heri mirabar, quid accidisset." Stomachatus est Canius; sed quid faceret?

# CXV.

Erat Athenis spatiosa et capax domus, sed ob talem causam infamis. Nam per silentium noctis vinculorum strepitus audiebatur; mox apparebat idolon, senex macie et squalore confectus, promissâ barbâ, horrenti capillo, qui cruribus compedes, manibus catenas, gerebat quatiebatque. Deserta est inde domus, et tota illi monstro relicta. Proscribebatur tamen, si quis, tanti mali ignarus, emere aut conducere vellet. Venit Athenas philosophus Athenodorus, rem omnem cognoscit, nihilominus domum conducit. Ubi cœpit advesperascere, poscit pugillares, stilum, lumen; suos omnes in interiora domûs dimittit; ipse ad scribendum animum, oculos, manum intendit, ne vacua mens inanes sibi metus fingeret. Primò ubique silentium; deinde concutitur ferrum, vincula moventur. Ille nec tollit oculos, nec stilum remittit. Tum crebrescit fragor, adventat, et jam ut in limine, jam ut intra limen auditur. Respicit Athenodorus, videt, agnoscitque narratam sibi effigiem. Illa stabat, innuebatque digito, similis vocanti. Philosophus rursus ceris incumbit; illa super caput scribentis catenas concutit. Respicit rursus philosophus, et videt effigiem, ut priùs, innuentem: nec moratus tollit lumen et sequitur. Ibat illa lento gradu, quasi gravis vinculis; in areâ domûs repente dilapsa comitem deserit. Ille folia et herbas concerpit, et signum loco ponit. Postero die adit magistratus, monet, ut illum locum effodi jubeant. Quo facto, inveniuntur ossa catenis implicita; his rite sepultis domus postea formidine caruit.

### CXVI.

Polycrati, Samiorum regi, mira erat et continua prosperitas; quem quum Amasis, rex Egyptiorum, qui cum eo amicitià erat conjunctus, præter solitum florere animadverteret, sollicitudine est affectus, timuitque, ne tantæ felicitati superveniret aliquando funesta quædam calamitas. Itaque misit ad eum literas, quarum hæc fere sententia fuit : 'deos invidere nimium florentibus : satius esse mortalibus alternare vices prosperæ et adversæ fortunæ: vix inveniri posse, cui simul felix vita et vitæ felix exitus contigissent; interesse ejus, qui tam singulari felicitate uteretur, ut, quod amissum maxime doleret, projiceret pessumdaretque.' Hanc epistolam quum legisset Polycrates, reputare secum, quod si perderet, plurima sibi desideria commoveret. Aureum annulum, in quo smaragdus inerat, pulcherrimum et pretiosissimum opus, habebat Hanc projiciendum esse statuit. Navem igitur ascendit; nautis, ut in pelagus vela darent, imperat. Quum jam procul esset à littore, annulum, spectantibus omnibus qui in nave erant, ejicit in pontum. Quo facto, in portum redit. Ut domum venit, valde mærere damnum, quod suâ sponte passus erat. Paucis post diebus, homo quidam piscator, quum forte piscem mira magnitudine cepisset, eum dono dandum esse Polycrati ratus, pergit ad regiam, rogatque ut sibi ipsum regem adire liceat. Id quum concessum esset, stans ille in conspectu regis: "Hunc ego tibi piscem, rex," inquit, "donandum statui; talem ad macellum portare indignatus sum. Regem scilicet tam immanis bellua requirit." Polycrates, multum lætatus, laudat hominem, et ad cœnam venire jubet. Is se tam honorificè tractari gaudens regiam ingreditur. Hora cœnæ venit. Servi piscem dissecant; annulum regis in eo inveniunt. Afferunt ad Polycratem, narrant quo modo invenissent. Ille, quum divinitus rem accidisse judicaret, scripsit ad Amasin literas, quæque et quam mira sibi evenissent, memorat. Amasis lecta hac epistola, præsagiebat ei luctuoissimum impendere exitium, qui adeo fortunatus esset, ut ea, quæ perderet, recuperaret. Mox, misso ad eum legato, dixit, dimittere se ejus amicitiam. Nec vero falsa præsentiebat. Nam Polycrates acerbissima morte periit, cruci affixus.

#### CXVII.

Dionysius duodequadraginta annos Syracusanorum .tyrannus fuit, quum quinque et viginti annos natus dominatum occupavisset. Vir fuit summâ in victu temperantiâ, in rebus gerendis acer et industrius, maleficus tamen naturâ et injustus. Hic veritatem intuentibus miserrimus fuisse videtur. Qui quum esset bonis parentibus et honesto loco natus, et multos æquales, multos propinquos haberet, credebat eorum nemini; sed quibusdam convenis et feris barbaris custodiam corporis committebat. Ita propter injustam dominatûs cupiditatem in carcerem quodam modo ipse se incluserat. Quinetiam, ne tonsori collum committeret, tondere filias suas docuit. Et tamen ab his ipsis, quum jam essent adultæ, ferrum removit, instituitque, ut candentibus juglandium putaminibus barbam sibi et capillum adurerent. Idem, quum in communibus suggestis consistere non auderet, concionari ex turri altâ solebat. Quum pilâ ludere vellet, tunicamque poneret, adolescentulo cuidam tradidisse gladium dicitur. Hîc dixit jocans familiaris quidam, "Huic certe vitam tuam committis." Arrisit adolescentulus. utrumque jussit interfici; alterum, quia viam demonstravisset sui interimendi; alterum, quia dictum id risu approbavisset: Atque, eo facto, sic doluit, nihil ut tulerit gravius in vitâ; sibi enim carissimum occiderat.

#### CXVIII.

Hic quidem tyrannus ipse indicavit, quam esset beatus. Nam, quum quidam ex ejus assentatoribus, Damocles, commemoraret in sermone copias ejus, opes, majestatem dominatûs, rerum abundantiam, magnificentium ædium regiarum, negaretque unquam quenquam beatiorem fuisse, "Visne igitur," inquit Dionysius, "O Damocle, quoniam hæc te vita delectat, ipse eandem degustare, et fortunam experiri meam?" Quum se ille cupere dixisset, collocari jussit hominem in aureo lecto. Abacos complures ornavit argento auroque cælato. Aderant unguenta, coronæ; incendebantur odores; mensæ conquisitissimis epulis exstruebantur. Fortunatus sibi Damocles videbatur. In hôc medio apparatu fulgentem gladium e lacunari setâ equinâ aptum demitti jussit Dionysius, ut impenderet beati illius cervicibus. Itaque nec pulchra ista ornamenta aspiciebat; nec manum porrigebat in mensam: denique exoravit tyrannum, ut abire liceret, quod jam beatus nollet esse. Satisne videtur declarâsse Dionysius, nihil esse ei beatum, cui semper aliquis terror impendeat?

#### CXIX.

In terram Belgicam navigabamus. Sub meridiem coepit magis ac magis incrudescere tempestas. Nautis frustra cum vento luctantibus, tandem nauclerus pallens nos adiit. "Amici," inquit, "desii dominus esse navis mese. Reliquum est ut se quisque in extrema paret. In primis autem exoneranda est navis." Italus quidam aderat, cui scrinium fuit argento et vestibus plenum. Is cupiebat aut perire cum amicis opibus suis, aut simul cum illis servari. Tum nauclerus; "Per nos," inquit, "liceret tibi cum tuis perire solum; sed sequum non est, ut nos omnes tui scrinii causa periolitemur. Aliqui te una cum scrinio

dabimus in mare præcipitem." Sic Italus quoque jacturam fecit. Paullo post venti rupere funes, disjecere vela. Tum nautæ Beatam Mariam Virginem et Divos omnes appellare, vota facere. Erat unus, qui polliceretur se aditurum Divum Jacobum, qui habitat Compostellæ, nudis pedibus et capite, corpore tantum lorica ferrea tecto; simul cibum mendicaturum. Unus pollicitus est Divo Christophoro cereum tantum, quanta esset ipsius Divi statua. Heec quum identidem vociferaretur, cubito tetigit, qui proximus assistebat, et submonuit : "Vide quid pollicearis: etiamsi rerum omnium tuarum auctionem facias. solvere non poteris." Tum ille voce jam pressiore, ne videlicet exaudiret Christophorus: "Tace," inquit, "fatue; si semel contigero terram non daturus sum illi candelam sebaceam." Ego autem adibam ipsum Patrem, dicens, "Pater noster, qui es in cœlis." Nemo Divorum Illo citiùs audit, aut liberiùs donat, quod petitur. Inter omnes nullus se tranquilliùs agebat, quam mulier quædam, cui erat infantulus in sinu. Sola nec vociferabatur, nec flebat, nec pollicebatur; tantum complexa puellum, tacitè precabatur. Mox nautæ scapham aquâ exonerant, et in mare demittunt. In hanc omnes sese conjicere conantur, nautis magno tumultu reclamantibus, 'scapham non esse tantæ multitudinis capacem.' Tum omnes, quod quisque posset, arripuit, et sese fluctibus committunt. Prima omnium mulier ad littus pervenit: at qui se in scapham conjecerant, periere omnes, nam priùs quam posset se a navi magnâ liberare, illius vacillatione subversa est. Ego, dum aliis consulo, pœne perieram, nam nihil natationi aptum supererat. Postremò imam mali partem arripio; eam quoniam solus eximere non poteram, socium adscisco. Huic ambo connixi nos mari committimus. Dum jactamur, sacrificus quidam se in humeros nostros conjecit. Erat autem ingenti corpore. Exclamamus, "Quis ille tertius? Is perdet nos omnes!" Ille

contra placide "Sitis," inquit, "bono animo; sat spatii est; Deus nobis aderit." Mox socius, fracto femore, malo avulsus est; in locum ejus sacrificus successit. Nec multo post vir, qui miræ proceritatis erat, "Bono," inquit, "es animo; sentio vadum." Ego non ausus tantum felicitatis sperare, "Longiùs," inquam, "absumus a littore, quam ut vadum sperandum sit." "Immo," inquit, "sentio pedibus terram." Mox "Tu fac, quod tibi videtur factu optimum; ego tibi cedo malum totum, et vado me credo." Simul fluctuum decessum exspectat, et procurrit. Rursus accedentibus undis, utraque manu complexus utrumque genu, obnitebatur fluctui, occultans sese sub undis. Rursus, abeunte fluctu, procurrebat. Stabant in arenâ, qui, porrectis inter sese prælongis hastilibus, sese adversus impetum undarum fulciebant: horum ultimus hastam adnatantibus porrigebat. Hâc ope ego cum paucis aliis, inter quos erat sacrificus ille, sum servatus.

## CXX.

Lucianus Samosatensis, scriptor suavissimus, multa de Demonace philosopho retulit. Ex his pauca excerpere juvat. Fuit genere Cyprius, nobilis et dives; sed insito philosophiæ amore a puero statim commotus humana bona omnia despexit. Vir erat sobrius et honestus et veri studiosus. At nunquam visus est supra modum indignari, neque si quis reprehendendus esset; sed peccata quum perstringeret, peccantibus ignoscebat. Putabat enim, hominis quidem esse peccare, Dei autem aut æqualis Deo hominis, peccata corrigere: neque ab ullis se removebat, nisi qui ultra spem emendationis peccare viderentur. Hunc Atheniensium cum universus populus tum principes supra modum admirabantur; quanquam primò multorum odium libertate loquendi commoverat. Accusatus ab inimicis quibusdam, quòd nunquam Minervæ escrum

fecisset, "Nolite," inquit, "mirari, Athenienses, si non priùs ei sacrum feci; neque enim indigere meis illam victimis putabam." Aliud erat crimen, quòd Eleusiniis non initiatus esset. Ad hoc respondit, "Si mala sint mysteria, taciturus non eram apud non initiatos, sed dehortaturus illos ab orgiis; sin bona, indicaturus præ humanitate omnibus." Igitur Athenienses, qui jam lapides in manibus paratos haberent, mites illi statim et propitii sunt facti.

Athletes quidam, derisus ab illo, quòd in floridà veste, ut Olympionices, ambularet, caput illius lapide percusserat, ita ut effluerit sanguis. Præsentes quidem indignari, quasi unusquisque suorum pulsatus esset, et clamare, 'ad Proconsulem eundum esse:' at Demonax "Nequaquam," inquit, "viri, ad Proconsulem; sed ad medicum." Quum aliquis magum se esse diceret, et carmina habere potentissima, quibus omnium, quæ vellet, potiri posset, "Noli admirari," inquit, "nam et ego artem eandem habeo; et sivis, sequere ad panum venditricem, et vide, quid facere possim; nam uno carmine, et veneno pauxillo illam inducam, ut panem mihi det." Simul nummum ostentat.

### CXXI.

Idem Demonax, quum Herodes Atticus filium suum Pollucem defunctum lugeret, juberetque currum illi jungi, et equos adstare tanquam conscensuro, et cœnam parari, accedens, "A Polluce," inquit, "affero tibi epistolam." Gaudente illo, et dicente, "Quid ergo, Demonax, Pollux postulat," "Accusat," inquit, "quòd non jam ad ipsum abeas." Idem lugenti filium, et in tenebris se concludenti, accedens dixit 'magum se esse, et posse evocare filii umbram, modò sibi tres homines nominaret, qui neminem unquam luxerint.' Multum autem illo dubitante et hærente, neque enim habebat, opinor, quem nominaret,

tum Demonax, "Num tu, ridicule, arbitraris, solum te intolerabilia pati, quum tamen luctûs expertem videas neminem?" Navigaturo per hiemem dixit amicorum aliquis, "Nonne metuis, ne everso navigio, a piscibus devoreris?" "Ingratus fuerim," inquit, "si gravarer consumi a piscibus, qui ipse multos adeo pisces epulatus sim." Rhetori cuidam pessimè declamanti consuluit, ut se exerceret, et meditaretur. Hôc autem dicente, "semper apud me dico;" "Non igitur mirum est," inquit, "talia te dicere, qui stultum adeo auditorem adhibeas." Divinatorem videns publice acceptâ mercede divinantem, "Non video," inquit, "pro quâ re mercedem repetas. Si enim, ut qui mutare aliquid possis de fatis, parum nimis exigis, quantumcunque exigas. Sin verò fati decreta mutari non possunt, tua quid prodest divinatio?" Sene quodam Romano, corporis obesioris, pugnam ad palum ostendente, atque interrogante, "Quomodo tibi, Demonax, pugnare tibi videor?" "Præclare," inquit, "ligneum si hostem habueris."

### CXXII.

Idem Demonax ad quæstiones difficiles admodum paratus erat. Per ludibrium enim interrogante quodam, "Si mille minas lignorum cremavero, Demonax, quot ibi minæ fumi fuerint?" "Appende," inquit, "cineres; reliquum omne fumus est." Polybio cuidam, indocto planè homini, et vitiosè loquenti, dicenti, "Imperator me Romanâ civitate honoravit," "Utinam," inquit, "Græcum te potiùs quam Romanum fecisset." Admetus quidam, poeta pessimus, dixerat, 'a se scriptum esse epigramma unius versûs; testamento jussisse, hoc columellæ sepulchri inscribi.' Homo ipsum versum recitaverat. Tum Demonax ridens dixit: "Adeo pulchrum ess, O Admete, epigramma, ut velim illud jam inscriptum esse." Interrogante quodam, cui legionum et provinciæ maximæ imp

rium commissum fuerit, 'quomodo optime imperaret aliquis,' dixit, "Si non irascatur, si loquatur pauca, multa verò audiat." Vixit annos ferè centum, sine morbo, sine dolore, nemini molestus, amicis utilis. Tanto illum amore prosecuti sunt Athenienses, ut prodeunti in publicum assurgerent principes, silentium autem ab omnibus illi præstaretur. Si quam domum intrasset, incolæ ut Denm excipiebant. Prætereuntem panum venditrices certatim ad se trahere, postulans unaquæque, a se panem uti caperet. Quin pueri fructus illi offerre, et patrem appellare. Seditione aliquando Athenis exortâ, in concionem prodiit. Ipse tanti viri aspectus silentium fecit. At ille, quum videret, jam illos resipuisse, verbo nullo prolato, iterum discessit. Hunc Athenienses publico funere extulerunt. Philosophi subeuntes feretro ad sepulchrum portârunt. Secuta est reliqua multitudo; nemo quidam in urbe fuit, quin ad funus istud procederet. Ipsam sedem lapideam, in quâ fessus acquiescere solebat, tanquam sacram, osculabantur cives, et floribus ornabant.

### CXXIII.

Lucianus quædam de philosophis, oratoribus, et poetis longævis memoratu digna tradidit. Zeno, Stoicæ philosophiæ princeps, octo et nonaginta annos vixit. Is, quum in concionem prodiret, et lapsus offenderet, exclamavit, "Quid? me vocas, terra?" et domum reversus inediâ vitam finiit. Gorgias annos octo et centum vixit. Quum interrogaret quidam de causis tam longæ et sanæ senectutis, respondisse fertur Gorgias, se in conviviis aliorum suâ semper temperantiâ usum esse. Isocrates rhetor, quum sex et nonaginta annos natus esset, orationem nobilem, quæ panegyrica appellatur, scripsit; circa annum verò undecentesimum, audito, Atheniensea a

Philippo pugnå ad Chæroneam victos, lamentabili voce Euripidis versiculum protulit, quem ad se referebat; quumque subjecisset, 'servituram esse Græciam,' e vitå discessit. Sophocles, poeta tragicus, uvæ acino suffocatus est, quinque et nonaginta annos quum vixisset. Hic ab Iophonte filio sub finem vitæ accusatus dementiæ, fabulam recitavit, quæ pro sanitatis argumento esset. Judices senem quidem vehementer sunt admirati, filii autem furorem damnaverunt. Philemon, poeta comicus, quum in lectulo quiescens videret asinum ficus sibi paratas devorantem, in risum effusus est. Vocato servo, jussit, ut vinum quoque asino sorbendum adderetur. Sic, spiritu per risum intercluso, mortuus est.

### CXXIV.

Alexander, Hannibal, et Scipio, coram Minoe, apud inferos Judice, de primæ sedis jure contendunt.

Alex. Me par est præponi tibi, Afer, melior enim sum.

Han. Neutiquam, verum me.

Alex. Ergo Minos causam disceptet.

Min. Quinam estis?

Alex. Hic Hannibal Carthaginiensis, ego Alexander, Philippi filius.

Min. Profectò clari utrique; sed quâ de re orta vobis lis est?

Alex. De primæ sedis jure : fert enim hicce se præstantiorem me exstitisse imperatorem. Ego verò me aio cunctis belli peritià præstitisse.

Min. Ergo per vices uterque dicat: tu prior, Afer, causam tuam age.

Han. Eos laude dignissimos puto, quotcunque, quum initio nihil essent, tamen ad magnum potentiæ fastigium, per se opibus comparatis, processerint. Quanta ego, primò in Hispaniam cum paucis transgressus, fecerius

expediam. Celtiberos in potestatem redegi, Gallos occidentales devici, superatisque Alpibus, campestrem Italiam subjeci; ad portas usque urbis Romæ perveni. Hæc omnia feci, cum ducibus prudentissimis comparatus, et cum militibus pugnacissimis congressus. Non Medos Armeniosque, audenti statim victoriam cedentes, debellavi. Alexander autem imperium a patre acceptum, felicitate mirâ usus, auxit. Qui, quum imbellem istum Darium devicisset, adorari volebat, et impiè inter convivia amicos trucidabat. Ego contra æquo jure imperium exercui; et hæc feci barbarus, et Græcæ disciplinæ expers, neque sub summo philosopho doctrinâ imbutus. Hæc sunt, quibus ego Alexandro me præstare fero.

Min. Hic certè pulcherrimè locutus est. Tu, Alexander, quid ad illa respondes?

Alex. Nihil oportebat homini tam impudenti. Satis enim te fama docuerit, qualis ego rex et qualis hic contra fuerit latro. Juvenis adhuc ad rerum administrationem aggressus, imperium turbatum continui, et patris percussores pœnâ affeci. Deinde cum paucis militibus Asiam invasi; ad Granicum victor fui; Lydiâ et provinciis plerisque subactis, perveni ad Issum. Scis, Minos, quot mortuos uno die huc demiserim. Et hæc omnia agebam, ipse me ante alios periculis offerens, et vulnerari pulchrum esse putans. Mox ad Indos penetravi, Oceanumque imperii limitem feci, elephantos cepi, Porum subegi; Scythas etiam, viros minime contemnendos, transgressus Tanaim, equestri pugna devici. Denique ego rex obii: hic patriâ extorris in Bithynia, ut fraudulentissimo ac crudelissimo homine dignum erat, est mortuus. Nam quomodo superârit hostes, mitto dicere; non fortitudine sanè, sed malitià, perfidià, et dolis. Quando quidem verò mihi luxuriam exprobravit, oblitus mihi videtur, quam stulte ipse belli occasiones inter Capuæ delicias perdiderit. Dixi; tu, Minos, judica.

Scip. Ne priùs tamen, nisi de me quoque audiveris.

Min. At quis tu, virorum optime? unde venis?

Scip. Italus sum Scipio, imperator, qui Carthaginem fregi.

Min. Quid igitur tu dices ?

Scip. Alexandro quidem me sedem primam concedere; verùm Hannibalem anteire, ut qui victum illum pepuli. Quomodo non impudens igitur hicce, qui cum Alexandro contendat, cui ne ego quidem Scipio, qui eum superavi, comparari sustineo.

Min. Æquum loqueris, Scipio. Quare primam quidem locum habeat Alexander: tu illi secundus esto: postea, si videtur, Hannibal, ne ipse quidem facilè contemnendus.

#### CXXV.

Jacobo duodecim erant filii, quorum patri carissimus erat Josephus. At puerum fratres oderant. Non modò enim propter patris favorem invisus erat, sed etiam propter somnia, quæ narrare solebat, et quibus portendi videbatur, eum familiæ suæ esse imperaturum. Hunc quodam die miserat pater ad fratres, qui procul a domo oves pascebant. At illi, simul atque advenientem conspexissent, consilium de puero occidendo ceperunt. Denique, suadente Reubeno, vivum in foveam conjecerunt. Reubeni enim consilium fuit, ut clam ceteris ad locum rediret, et puerum salvum ad patrem dimitteret. Inter hæc præteriere mercatores quidam Arabes, qui thura in Ægyptum portabant. Placuit igitur Josephum rursus e foveâ extrahere et vendere. Digressis cæteris, rediit ad foveam Reubenus, quam quum vacuam invenisset, laniatâ veste, graviter ingemuit. Proxima cura fuit, ut scelus Jacobum celarent. Josepho erat vestis versicolor, donum patris. Hanc fratres, sanguine hædi infectam, ad Jacobum miserunt. Ratus ille filium a ferà laniatum esse, tanquam mortuum luxit. Interea mercatores in Ægyptum venerant, et Josephum Potipharo cuidam vendiderant, qui præfectus speculatorum in aulâ Pharaonis fuit.

### CXXVI.

At Josepho, juveni sancto et integro, Dei favor aderat. Mox Potipharus eum domini suæ præfecit. Postea quidem, ab uxore domini falso accusatus, in carcerem conjectus est; at hic quoque se tam prudenter gessit, ut ei ipsius carceris administratio committeretur. Fortè rex iratus duos e servis vinciri jusserat; quorum alter cellis vinariis præfuit, alter fuit pistorum princeps. Josephus, quum quodam die homines tristiores esse vidisset, causam tristitiæ quæsivit. Responderunt illi, 'se somnia somniâsse; nullum esse, qui hæc interpretari posset.' Tum, jubente Josepho, suum uterque somnium narravit. "Conspexi," inquit custos cellarum, "vitem, in quâ tres erant rami. Hi primum frondes, deinde flores, uvas denique maturas ferre videbantur. Uvas in poculum Pharaonis, quod in manu ferebam, expressi; dein poculum Pharaoni dedi." Tum Josephus, "Intra triduum te rex liberabit, et in pristinam dignitatem restituet. At tu, quum coram Pharaone stabis, memor esto mei, nihil enim vinculis dignum commisi." Placuit pistorum principi tam læta somnii interpretatio. Tum is "Videbar," inquit, "tria in capite canistra ferre, quibus inerant cibi, in usum Pharaonis parati. Hos dum ferebam, volucres eripere visi sunt." Respondit Josephus, "Te intra triduum rex in arbore suspendet, ubi volucres carnem tuam convellent." Post hoc tertio die rex recordatus est hominum, quos in carcerem conjecerat, et alterum in ministerium pristinum restituit, alterum verd cruci affixit. Sed custos cellarum fidei oblitus est, quam Josepho præstiterat. At, exacto

triennio, rex ipse somnio territus est; quod quum nemo interpretari posset, narravit custos cellarum, quæ sibi et principi pistorum accidissent. Hôc audito rex Josephum e carcere arcessivit: et "Vidi," inquit, "juvencos septem pinguese flumine in ripam conscendere. His in prato pascentibus, septem alii macerrimi e flumine conscenderunt, qui pingues istos comederunt, neque ipsi pinguiores facti sunt. Post hoc experrectus sum somno. At quum iterum obdormivissem, vidi uno in culmo pingues septem aristas, in altero autem septem alias tenues et Euro marcidas. Tunc idem. quod antea, factum est. Namque aristæ marcidæ pingues istas comederunt, neque ipsæ factæ sunt pinguiores." Ad hæc Josephus, "Deus tibi, rex, futura ostendit. Somnii utriusque eadem est interpretatio. Scias igitur, terram hanc per septem annos frumenti feracissimam fore, dein per tantumden temporis summâ cibi inopiâ laboraturam, ita ut ne memor quidem prioris abundantiæ futura sit. Tibi igitur eligendus est vir prudens, qui quintam frumenti partem quotannis reponendam curet." Rex consilium probavit, neminem ad hoc officium ipso Josepho aptiorem censuit. Hunc igitur, summis honoribus auctum, regno toti præfecit.

## CXXVII.

Aliquot post annis, quum jam toto orbe ingravesceret fames, filii Jacobi, jussu patris, e regione Canaaniticâ in Ægyptum, frumentum empturi venerunt. Qui quum Josephum adiissent (is enim annonæ præfuit), vir fratres suos statim agnoscit; illi autem, quis esset, ignorabant. Tum Josephus iram simulare, quasi speculandi causâ venissent; illi contra se excusare, et genus suum ostendere, affirmare, se eodem patre ortos esse, unum e numero suo jampridem interiisse, unum natu minimum, domi

relictum esse. Sed Josephus, tanquam incredulus, eos custodiri jussit; tertio verò die sic allocutus est: "Nolo quidquam injustè facere. Vos igitur domum redite, et frumentum, quo egeatis, vobiscum referte. Sed necesse est, unum e vobis hic vinctum relinqui, donec fratrem istum, de quo locuti estis, ad me duxeritis." Quibus verbis perterriti homines se ipsos incusant, confitentur, 'se sceleris ejus jam pœnas meritò dare, quod olim in Josephum fratrem commississent.' At Josephus, auditis quæ inter se loquebantur, in fletum prorrupit; tandem lacrymis ægrè cohibitis, ad fratres conversus est, et quum Simeonem coram eis vinxisset, dimisit. Illi, domum regressi, rem patri enarraverunt. Nec multo post, urgente cibi inopiâ, jubet pater ut rursus in Ægyptum iter facerent. Negant illi se, nisi cum fratre Benjamino, ituros. Reluctatur senex; tandem, precibus suorum et necessitate temporis victus, adolescentem dimittit. Josephus homines comiter excipit, laudat quod fratrem duxissent, et de patris valetudine sollicitè interrogat; dein convivio adhibet. Hominibus jam discumbentibus miraculo est, quòd se secundum ætatem disponi videant, Benjaminum præcipuo honore coli. Mane primo abeunt; frumentum, quantum ferre poterant, secum portant. At vix ex urbe digressi erant, quum accurrit Josephi dispensator. Nempe ei mandaverat Josephus, ut sacco cujusque pecuniam, quam pro frumento solverat, clam insereret, in Benjamini sacco una cum pecuniâ poculum argenteum, quo ipse utebatur. Hic nunc, tanquam irâ accensus, homines furti accusat. Exploratis saccis, apud Benjaminum poculum reperitur. Tum mæsti omnes ad urbem regrediuntur, et Josephum adeunt. Is quum dixisset, se hominem furti noxium servituti addicturum esse, cæteros ad patrem discedere jussisset, Judas in hunc modum locutus est, "Jussu tuo, domine, fratrem nostrum huc adduximus. At vix patri persuasimus, ut adolescentem dimitteret; dixit enim, ex uxore suâ duos tantum filios natos esse; ex his unum a ferà laniatum interiisse; se dolore obiturum, si quid mali alteri accidisset. Nec fieri potest, quin extemplo moriatur senex, simul atque nos sine fratre nostro redeuntes viderit. Tu igitur, precor, adolescentem salvum dimittas; ego apud te servire paratus sum." Quæ quum audivisset Josephus, 'omnes discedere jussit, et multo cum fletu nomen suum fratribus aperuit. Dein perculsos his verbis solatus est, "Bono estote animo, fratres. Nec vobis molestum sit, si quid olim in me crudelius commiseritis. Nam me Deus ipse, credo, præmisit, ut vobis auxilio egentibus subvenire possem. Et jam in orbe toto per quinque annos fames futura est. Patri igitur nostro et vobis, et gregibus armentisque vestris, in hâc terrâ victum dabo." Mox. non sine assensu regis, jussit, ut ad patrem regrederentur, et quæ vidissent et audivissent omnia, nuntiarent; et, quum commeatus varios, et vehicula quibus pater cum suis veheretur, parâsset fratres donis plurimis oneratos dimisit.

### CXXVIII.

Philistini, gens Mari Magno vicina, Israelitas crebis incursionibus lacessebant. Eo tempore vivebat Manoa quidam haud procul a Philistinorum finibus, e tribu Danensi ortus, vir omnis divini atque humani juris observantissimus. Hunc præter publicas patriæ suæ clades, privatus afficiebat dolor, quòd sterilis esset uxor, neque ulla jam spes prolis relinqueretur. At quodam die nuntius cœlo demissus uxori astare visus est. Mulier habitum viri humano augustiorem mirans obmutuit. Tunc ille, "Abi," inquit, "nuntia marito tuo, te filium parituram esse, qui Israelitas a manibus hostium liberabit." His prædictis statim abiit. Manoæ hæc nuntiatum festinat uxor. Ei vix credibile videtur. Fretus tamen uxoris fide Deum precatur, ut iterum nuntius appareat, doceatque

parentes, quomodo quibusque artibus puerum erudiant. His precibus annuit Deus; iterum apparet nuntius, et quantum fas fuit, de puero patefacit. Tum videtur res mira; nam, sacra Manoâ faciente, vir ad coelum inter fumum ascendit. Expleto tempore puer natus est, cui parentes nomen Samsonium imponunt. Hic, postquam adolevit ætas, vidit et amavit puellam quandam e Philistinis. At parentes, ægrè passi quòd ex impià et hostili gente uxorem ducere vellet, matrimonium vehementer dissuadebant. Tandem precibus vicit juvenis, ut in agros Philistinos proficiscentem comitarentur. Fortè evenit, ut Samsonio iter facienti leo obviàm iret, fame et ferocitate suâ stimulatus. Consistit fera, torvisque oculis juvenem intuetur. At ille audacter in monstrum irruit, manibusque nudis immane corpus dilaniavit. Nec multo post, quum viam eandem rediret, nova res in conspectum datur. Mirum in modum cadaver denuo vivebat. Namque apium examen intra ossa feræ finxerat favum, unde mel tanquam ex fonte stillabat. Quod quum vidisset Samsonius, mel e leone cepit, cujus partem ipse, partem parentes sui ederunt. Jamque aderat dies, quo celebranda erant repotia. Samsonius xxx. juvenes addidit sibi comites, quibus ænigma his verbis proposuit: "Quod edebat, mel edit; quod acre erat, fit dulce." Pollicitus est, si intra vII. dies ænigma solverint, se xxx. togas vestesque stragulas pro præmio daturum. Per vi. dies ex ænigmatis ambagibus se extricare nequibant; septimo die Samsonii sponsæ denuntiaverunt, se, nisi e viro rem eliceret, illam domumque paternam accensuros. Minis perterrita illa fœmineis artibus virum tentabat; tandem precibus assiduis fatigatus rem totam patefacit. Illa ad juvenes refert; hi Samsonium vespere adeunt, et ænigma ita solvunt, "Quid dulcius melle? Quid acrius leone?" Vir iratus abiit, et quum ad urbem Ascalonem devenisset, interfectis ibi civibus XXX, corum spolia uxoris amicis doli pretium

М.

dedit. Mirum, quantum audaciæ posthâc in lacessendis Philistinis ostendit. Ademptâ uxore, vulpes coc. cepit, quas binas conjunxit, et quum faces caudis affixas accendisset. in segetes, vineta, et oliveta depulit. Omnia profectò flammis absumpta. Mox Philistini irati uxorem socerumque comburunt. Quo facto Samsonius, affines suos ulturus, ipse Philistinos aggreditur. Illo agressu hostium magnam turbam interficit. Postea ingens exercitus in Israelitarum agros proficiscitur, incolasque Samsonium postulat. Continuò hostibus vir traditur; sed vincula, tanquam stuppam, divellit. Hoc dedecus ægrè ferens, correpta asini maxillâ, mille e Philistinis homines occidit. Nec multo post Gazæ urbis portas e cardinibus sustulit, et cum postibus ad verticem colli propinqui vexit. Tandem, auod totius gentis vires non potuerunt, id femineo dolo Meretricis insano amore Samsonius ardebat. effectum. Illa blanditiis, quarum feminæ sunt peritissimæ, usa, e viro tentabat elicere, quomodo corporis animique robur surripi posset. Ter spes mulieris excitata, ter elusa. Tandem, illâ multo cum fletu obsecrante, omnia patefecit. Tum mulier, collectis Philistinorum ducibus, jubet e capite viri dormientis tonderi capillos, quos intonsos Dei jussu e natu habuerat. Statim mens manusque ei deficiunt. Captus est, et, defossis oculis, in vincula abreptus. Mox festo die e carcere ductus est, ut epulantibus Philistinis ludibrio esset. Sed nesciebant, cum crinibus priscum vigorem viro rediisse. Itaque non impunè in eum illuserunt. Ductus enim ad duas columnas, quibus innixa est ædes, quum alteram dextrâ, alteram sinistrâ amplexus esset, magnâ vi corpus inclinavit. At priùs Deum exorarât, ut injurias suas ulcisci liceret. Tum domus collapsa ruit, et Samsonius ipse Philistinorumque innumerabilis multitudo in ruina perierunt. Sic plures sua in morte interemit, quam per totam vitam occiderat.

## CXXIX.

Fæmina quædam, nomine Naoma, e terrâ Israelitarum, quæ tunc fame laborabat, in regionem Moabiticam cum marito et duobus filiis suis discessit. At, his merbo peremptis, in patriam redire voluit. Profecta est igitur cum nurubus, Orpâ et Ruthâ, nam filius uterque uxorem Moabiticam duxerat. In viâ autem Naoma nurus domum redire jubet, illis felices nuptias et fausta omnia precatur. Negantibus illis se redituras, idem anus vehementiùs suadet. Tunc Orpa, socrum osculata, regreditur. Rutha "Ne me, precor," inquit, "dimittas. Ibo tecum. Eandem, quam tu, patriam, eundem Deum habebo: neque a te, nisi ipsâ morte, divellar." Quæ quum audivisset Naoma, nihil amplius locuta, comitem sibi Rutham adsiscit, et in oppidum suum Bethlehem ire pergit. Quò cum venissent. nam tempus erat messis, et hordeum jam falci maturum erat, exiit Rutha, assentiente Naomâ, spicilegium factura, et incidit in agrum Boazi cujusdam, viri divitis et cum Naomâ affinis. Quæsivit ille e messoribus suis, 'quænam ista esset puella.' Hôc audito, Rutham benigne allocutus est; monuitque ne agro isto discederet; quumque adesset vescendi tempus, jussit, ut cum suis cibum caperet. Messoribus etiam præcepit, ut spicarum manipulos consultò relinquerent, quò illa plus colligere posset. Illa igitur usque ad vesperam spicilegium fecit, et, quod collegerat, defricuit, et ad socrum retulit. Hoc quotidie faciebat Rutha usque ad finem messis. Mox dixit puellæ socrus sua, "Hodie Boazus hordeum ventilabit. Tu igitur, quum vir epulatus obdormiverit, vade in aream, et ad pedes ejus dormi; ipse indicabit tibi, quid facere debeas." Fecit puella, quod Naoma jusserat. Media autem nocte vir somno expergefactus est, et attonitus rogavit, 'quænam adesset.' Respondit illa, "Ipsa adsum Rutha, ancilla tua, et auxilium tuum imploro." Tum Boazus, "Bono sis animo, filia mea; ipse, quod rogas, faciam; sum equidem tibi propinquus, est tamen alius quidam tibi propior. Quòd si hic propinqui officio fungi nequeat, ipse tuam hereditatem redimam. At nunc secura Primo diluculo, quum sex hordei modios a viro accepisset, Rutha ad socrum rediit, et rem totam enarravit. Mane Boazus, ad portam oppidi sedens, hominem conspexit, de quo locutus erat, et illi "Sede hìc," inquit; simul decem viros e senioribus advocavit, qui rei testes essent; et "Naoma," inquit, "venumdat agrum Elimelechi, fratris nostri; hunc, si vis, emito." Respondit ille, 'se velle emere.' Tum Boazus, "At est Naomæ nurus, e gente Moabitica, cujus vir mortuus est. Necesse est igitur, ut quo die hunc agrum emas, hanc tu uxorem ducas, ne nomen mortui extinctum pereat. Negavit ille, se posse id facere; simul a pede calceamentum solvit, et Boazo dedit, quod secundum Israelitarum morem pignus rei esset. Tum Boazus, "Hodie ego emo omnia, quæ Elimelechi et filiorum fuerunt, et Rutham uxorem duco, ne pereat nomen fratris nostri. Vos. qui adestis, testes estote." Tunc onmes: "Testes sumus; at Deus tibi et uxori tuæ benefaciat, et domum tuam felicem reddat, et prole augeat." Postea Rutha filium peperit. Is avus erat Davidi regis.

## CXXX.

Fæmina quædam, apud virum sacerdotem nupta, quum prole diu caruisset, filium jam senior peperit. Hunc, ut precibus vehementissimis a Deo impetratum, ita Deo dicandum censuit. Puerum igitur, dum adhuc admodum parvus erat, ad Tabernaculum Sacrum secum duxit. Ibi Samuelis, namque id nomen parentes indiderant, vitam degebat, et sacra obibat ministeria: mater quotannis

veniebat, ut filium suum videret et amplecteretur. Princeps sacerdotum eo tempore fuit Elius, senex pietate insignis, sed qui filios suos, homines improbos, justo imperio coercere nequibat. At jam flagitiorum pœna instabat; placuit Deo, hanc per Samuelem Elio denuntiari. Serâ igitur nocte puer bis inter somnos vocem seipsum nominantis audivit; bis ad Elium, tanquam ille locutus esset, cucurrit. At quum tertid vox illa personuisset. puer tertid ad Elium festinasset, intellexit senex, rem divinam esse, monuit Samuelem, ut iterum accumberet, et, si vocem istam rursus audiret, responderet, 'se adesse et audire.' Mox ipse Deus Samuelem in hunc modum allocutus est, "Ego rem paro, auditu terribilem; namque omnia, quæ olim Elio minatus sum, extemplo perficiam; neque ullum est sacrificium, quo domûs istius scelus piari possit." Namque et priùs Deus, vate ad Elium misso, pœnas ei gravissimas denuntiaverat. Mane senex a puero quæsivit, quid priore nocte audivisset, monuitque, ne quid celaret. Mox enarratis omnibus, hoc tantum dixit, "Heec sunt a Deo; fiant, queecunque Illi placeant." Nec multo post bellum inter Israelitas et Philistinos ortum est. Positis utrinque castris, prœlium commissum est, in quo fusi sunt Israelitæ. Consilium cepere senes, quo rerum fortuna restitui posset. Placuit, ut arca e Tabernaculo in aciem portaretur; quam, a duobus Elii filiis vectam, quum Israelitæ conspexissent, ingens e toto exercitu sublatus clamor. Philistini subito terrore perculsi sunt; mox autem se mutuis hortationibus firmaverunt. Concurrerunt acies; at Israelitæ, quippe qui, adversante Deo, pugnarent, terga verterunt. Maxima secuta est clades: cæsorum numerus ad xxx. millia. Ipsa arca ab hostibus capta est, ferro interempti filii Elfi. Ipse fractà cervice obiit. At Samuelis, crescente indies famá, rempublicam Israelitarum administravit.

### CXXXI.

Inter Israelitas et Philistinos, regnante Saulo, crebræ erant dimicationes. Deo placuit per eos dies, ut Davidi nomen inclaresceret. Data est occasio magnæ virtutis et gloriæ, dum inter duas gentes certatur. Magno exercitu irruperant in Israelitarum fines Philistini. Contra Israelitæ, instructâ acie, se ad dimicandum parabant. Posita in colle utriusque exercitûs castra; separabat vallis. Prodibat e castris vir ingenti corporis proceritate, galeâ et loricâ fulgens, et enormi hastâ metuendus. Ferox hic viribus et jactabundus incutere terrorem Israelitis, provocare ad pugnam, et jubere egredi e castris, si quis cum ipso se certare posse confideret. Magnâ etiam clamabat voce, "Quid? ego nonne Philistinus sum? vos autem Saulo servitis. Detur mihi aliquis, quicum ego dimicem. Imperium ibi sit, unde victoria fuerit." Quas voces quum audivissent, perculsi sunt terrore Saulus et Is-Miserat fortè Davidum pater in castra cum cibariis, quæ ad fratres suos portaret. Is tum adolescentulus erat, et oves paternas pascebat. Videt puer, dum in castris moratur, Golianta Philistinum ex hostili acie cum solità verborum jactatione prodeuntem. Irà accensus, plenusque animi ardore, interrogat, 'quali et quanto præmio eum rex affecturus sit, qui Philistinum illum occiderit.' Responsum est juveni, fore ut is filiam regis uxorem ducat, et summis honoribus augeatur. Regem adit puer, postulatque, ut sibi liceat cum Philistino dimicare. Mirabundus rex intueri juvenem, et dubitare quid respondeat. Tandem his verbis alloquitur, "At tu minime vales pugnare cum eo, qui sis adolescentulus et belli imperitus; ille autem usque a primâ juventute bellum et prœlia novit." Respondit puer, "Olim ego custodiens oves paternas leonem et ursam grassantes in gregem vidi. Nec mora: invasi: occidi. Hunc quoque

Philistinum occidam, qui in nos nostrumque Deum insultavit." Ad quem rex, "Macte virtute, puer; felix faustumque sit, quod inceptes." Hee quum dixisset, puerum galea, lorica, gladio armat. At ille negat, 'se cum his ire posse, quippe qui gerendæ armaturæ insuetus sit.' Nec quidquam, nisi pastoralem baculum, fundam, et leves quinque lapillos, quos e rivulo legerat, secum gerit. His tantum instructus castris egreditur, itque obviam Philistino. Is, ubi imberbem adolescentulum vidit. se irrideri ratus, "Quid," inquit, "puerule ! An me baculo lapidibusque, ceu canem, superare speras ? Age, huc veni, ut feris avibusque prædam te faciam." Davidus ad hæc: "Hastå tu fretus et clypeo mecum congressurus es. Mihi in nostro Salvatore Deo, quem tu sprevisti, spes omnis et fiducia. Jam hoc ipso die sciet universus hic populus non in ense clypeove salutem, penes Deum esse belli et pugnarum eventus." Simul procurrit, et lapidem e fundâ jaculatus, Golianta in mediâ fronte percutit. Penetravit in frontem lapis; procumbit humi vir; occurrit puer, gladioque ejus e vagina correpto, jacentem obtruncat. Philistini, ut viderunt interfectum hominem, se in fugam conjecerunt. Sic fundâ et lapide armatus vicit Philistinum Davidus

## CXXXII.

# Horatii Coclitis fortitudo.

Tarquinii, Româ pulsi, ad Lartem Porsennam,

A.U.C.
246. Clusinum regem, perfugerant. Porsenna, eorum
precibus motus, Romam infesto exercitu venit.

Pons sublicius iter pœne hostibus dedit, ni unus vir fuisset,
Horatius Cocles. Is, quum captum repentino impetu

Janiculum, atque inde citatos decurrere hostes vidisset,
trepidamque turbam suorum arma ordinesque relinquere,

fugientes monuit, 'ut pontem ferro, igni, quâcunque vi possent, interrumpant; se impetum hostium excepturum.' Vadit inde ad primum aditum pontis; duos cum eo pudor tenuit, Sp. Lartium ac T. Herminium, ambos claros genere factisque. Cum his primam periculi procellam parumper sustinuit, deinde eos quoque ipsos, exiguâ pontis parte relictâ, revocantibus qui rescindebant, cedere in tutum coegit. Circumferens inde truces minaciter oculos ad proceres Etruscorum, nunc singulos provocare, nunc increpare omnes, 'servitia regum superborum, suæ libertatis immemores, alienam oppugnatum venire.' Cunctati aliquamdiu sunt, dum alius alium, ut proelium incipiant, circumspectant. Pudor deinde commovit aciem, et clamore sublato undique in unum hostem tela conjiciunt. Quæ quum in objecto cuncta scuto hæsissent, jam impetu conabantur detrudere virum. At simul fragor rupti pontis, simul clamor Romanorum, pavore subito impetum sustinuit. Tum Cocles, "Tiberine pater," inquit, "te sanctè precor, hæc arma et hunc militem propitio flumine accipias." Ita armatus in Tiberim desiluit; multisque super incidentibus telis, incolumis ad suos tranavit. Grata erga tantam virtutem civitas fuit: statua in comitio posita; agri, quantum uno die circumaravit. datum.

## CXXXIII.

## C. Mucii Scavola constantia.

Quum rex Porsenna Romam jam diu obsedisset, C. Mucius, adolescens nobilis, hostium 246. castra intrare, regemque occidere, constituit. At metuens, ne, si Consulum injussu iret, fortè deprehensus a custodibus Romanis, retraheretur ut transfuga, Senatum adiit. "Transire Tiberim," inquit, "Patres, et intrare, si possim, castra hostium, volo. Non prædam peto; majus,

si Dii juvant, in animo est facinus." Approbant Patres; abdito intra vestem ferro, proficiscitur. Ubi ed venit, in confertissimâ turbâ prope regium tribunal constitit. Ibi stipendium forte militibus dabatur, et scriba cum rege sedens pari ferè ornatu multa agebat. Mucius, timens sciscitari, uter Porsenna esset, scribam pro rege obtruncat. Quum per mediam turbam mucrone cruento viam sibi faceret, a satellitibus regiis comprehensus est, et ad tribunal retractus. Ibi, "Romanus sum," inquit, "civis: C. Mucium vocant. Hostis hostem occidere volui. Nec ad mortem minus animi est quam fuit ad cædem. Et facere et pati fortia Romanum est." Rex simul irâ infensus, periculoque conterritus, circumdari ignes jussit; tum Mucius, "Vide," inquit, "quam vile sit corpus eis, qui magnam gloriam spectant." Simul dextram incenso ad sacrificium foculo injicit. Prope attonitus miraculo rex a sede suâ prosiluit, et amoveri juvenem ab altaribus jussit. "Abi," inquit, "fortissime; liberum te, intactum, inviolatumque hinc dimitto." Tum Mucius, quasi remunerans meritum, "Trecenti," inquit, "in te conjuravimus principes juventutis Romanæ. Mea prima sors fuit. Cæteri, suo quisque tempore, aderunt." Mucium dimissum, qui postea Scevola a clade dextræ manûs appellatus est, legati a Porsennâ Romam secuti sunt. Adeo moverat eum periculum, quo nihil se præter errorem insidiatoris texerat, et futuri metus, ut pacis conditiones ultro ferret Romanis. Mox pax inter duas civitates facta est.

## CXXXIV.

Latini apud lacum Regillum devicti.

Hôc anno bellum exortum est inter Romanos et Latinos. A. Postumius Dictator, T. Æbutius Magister equitum, magnis copiis peditum equitumque profecti, ad lacum Regillum in agro Tusculano

agmini hostium occurrerunt. Prœlium atrocissimum fuit; nec quisquam procerum ferme hâc aut illâc ex acie sine vulnere, præter Dictatorem Romanum, excessit. thumium, primâ in acie suos adhortantem, instruentemque, Tarquinius Superbus, quanquam jam senior, equum infestus admisit; ictusque ab latere, concursu suorum in tutum receptus est. Ad alterum cornu concurrerant Æbutius, et Octavius Mamilius. Brachium Æbutio trajectum est, Mamilio pectus percussum. Æbutius, quum saucio brachio tenere telum non posset, pugnâ excessit. Latinus dux, nihil deterritus vulnere, prælium ciet; et quia suos perculsos viderit, arcessit cohortem exsulum Romanorum, cui L. Tarquinii filius præerat. Referentibus jam pedem ab eâ parte Romanis, M. Valerius, conspicatus ferocem juvenem Tarquinium ostentantem se in primâ exsulum acie, subdit calcaria equo, et eum infesto spiculo petit. Tarquinius retro in agmen suorum infesto hosti cessit. Valerium, temerè invectum in exsulem aciem, ex transverso quidam adortus transfigit. Dictator Posthumius, postquam cecidisse talem virum animadvertit, cohorti suæ signum dat. Ea prœlium init, et fessos exsules pellit. Imperator Latinus, ubi cohortem exsulum a Dictatore Romano prope circumventam vidit, ex subsidiariis manipulos aliquot in primam aciem secum rapit. Hos agmine venientes T. Herminius legatus conspicatus, Mamilium veste armisque insignem petit. Hunc uno ictu transfixum per latus occidit; ipse inter spoliandum corpus hostis veruto percussus, et in castra relatus, statim exspirat. Tum ad equites Dictator advolat, obtestans, ut, fesso jam pedite, descendant ex equis, et pugnam capessant. Dicto paruere; desiliunt ex equis, provolant in primum, et pro antesignanis parmas objiciunt. Recipit extemplo animum pedestris acies. Tum demum impulsi Latini, perculsaque inclinavit acies. Tum Dictator ædem Castori vovisse fertur; ac pronuntiâsse militi præmia, qui primus, qui secundus, castra hostium intrâsset. Tantusque ardor fuit, ut eodem impetu, quo fuderant hostem, Romani castra caperent. Hôc modo ad lacum Regillum pugnatum est. Dictator et Magister equitum triumphantes in Urbem rediere.

## CXXXV.

# Menenii Agrippæ sapientia.

Plebs Romana, Patrum imperium ægrè passa, A.U.C. Sicinio quodam auctore, in Sacrum Montem ar-260. mata secessit. Ibi, sine ullo duce, vallo fossaque communitis castris, neque lacessiti, neque lacessentes sese tenuere. Pavor ingens in Urbe, metuque mutuo suspensa erant omnia. Timere relicta a suis Plebs violentiam Patrum; timere Patres residem in Urbe Plebem. Placnit igitur ad Plebem mitti Menenium Agrippam, facundum virum, et, quòd inde oriundus erat, Plebi carum. Is, intromissus in castra, nihil aliud quam hoc narrâsse fertur: "Olim in corpore humano non, ut nunc, omnia in unum consentiebant, sed singulis membris suum cuique consilium, suus sermo fuit. Indignatæ sunt igitur reliquæ partes, suâ curâ, suo labore et ministerio ventri omnia quæri; ventrem, in medio quietum, nihil aliud quam datis voluptatibus frui. Conspiraverunt igitur, ne manus ad os cibum ferrent, nec os acciperent datum, nec dentes conficerent. At dum ventrem fame domare volunt, ipsa una membra totumque corpus ad extremam tabem veniunt. paruit, ventris quoque haud segne ministerium esse, neque magis ali quam alere, reddentem in omnes partes corporis. quæ ipse acciperet." Sensit Plebs intestinam hanc corporis seditionem suæ in Patres iræ simillimam esse. multo post, concordià factà, in Urbem rediit.

## CXXXVI.

# Virginia a patre suo interfecta.

L. Virginio, Centurioni, viro exempli recti domi militiæque, filia erat Virginia, virgo formosissima, quam L. Icilio viri acri desponderat. Hanc virginem amavit Appius Claudius, unus e Decemviris, qui tunc temporis rempublicam injusto imperio tenebant. Is, quum puellam pretio frustra tentâsset, ad crudelem superbamque vim animum convertit. M. Claudio, clienti, negotium dedit, ut virginem in servitutem assereret. Ille Virginiæ, in forum venienti, manus injecit, suâ servâ natam esse affirmans. Res ad Decemvirum relata est; ille, quæ vellet ipse, iniquo judicio decrevit. Conclamante patre, et sponso, et circumstantium turbâ, "I, Lictor," inquit Appius, "summove turbam, et da viam domino ad prehendendum mancipium." Quum hæc plenus iræ intonuisset, multitudo se sua sponte dimovit, et puella deserta stabat. Tum pater Virginius, ubi nihil usquam auxilii vidit, "Quæso," inquit, "Appi, ignosce patris dolori, si quid in te asperius dixi; deinde sinas me coram virgine nutricem percunctari. Si pater falsò dictus sum, æquiore animo discedam." Datâ veniâ, seducit filiam et nutricem ad tabernas proximas; ibi ab lanio cultrum arripit, "Hôc te uno, quo possum," ait, "modo in libertatem vindico." Pectus deinde puellæ transfigit, respectansque ad tribunal, "Te," inquit, "Appi, tuumque caput sanguine hôc consecro." Appius comprehendi Virginium jubet. Ille viam ferro fecit donec ad portam perrexit. Tum sponsus et propinqui exsangue puellæ corpus sublatum ostentant populo; scelus Appii, virginis infelicem formam, necessitatem patris deplorant. Ingenti orto tumultu, Appius, vitæ metuens, in domum confugit. Mox Decemviris ablata est potestas. Appius, accusatus et in carcerem conjectus, se ipsum interemit.

### CXXXVII.

# Capitolium a Gallis obsessum.

Clusini, a Gallis oppugnati, Romanorum auxi-364, 365. lium imploraverunt. Missi legati tres, M. Fabii Ambusti filii, qui cum Gallis agerent, ne socios Populi Romani oppugnarent. Legatis, hæc in concilio Gallorum mandata edentibus, responsum est, "Pacem non aspernamur, si Gallis, agro egentibus, Clusini partem finium concedant." Romanis quærentibus, 'quid in Etruriâ facerent Galli,' illi ferociter dixerunt, 'omnia virorum fortium esse.' Ita, accensis utrinque animis, ad arma discurritur, et prœlium conseritur. Ibi, jam urgentibus urbem Romanam fatis, legati contra jus gentium arma capiunt; nec id clam esse potuit, quum ante Etruscorum signa tres nobilissimi fortissimique Romanæ juventutis pugnarent. Quin etiam Q. Fabius ducem Gallorum, ferociter in ipsa Etruscorum signa incursantem, occidit, spoliaque ejus legentem Galli agnoverunt. Omissa inde in Clusinos ira; receptui canunt, minantes Romanis. Legati Romam missi sunt, questum injurias; postulatumque, ut pro violato jure gentium Fabii dederentur. Romani autem eos, quorum de pœnâ agebatur, Tribunos militum in insequentem annum creaverunt. Galli, bellum propalam minantes, ad suos redeunt.

Proximo anno ad Alliam flumen Romanus exercitus turpiter est fugatus. Maxima pars fugientium Veios petiit. Ipsa Urbs prope sine præsidio relicta. Placuit igitur, quum spes nulla esset, Urbem defendi posse, cum conjugibus liberisque juventutem militarem, Senatûsque robur, in arcem Capitoliumque concedere: flaminem, sacerdotesque vestales sacra publica ab cæde, ab incendiis procul auferre. Tum Plebs in urbes finitimas dilapsa est. At turba seniorum, qui magistratus gesserant, obstinato

ad mortem animo adventum hostium exspectabat. Primo post pugnam die Galli Urbem ineunt; portas patentes, omnia deserta inveniunt. Primò ad prædam dilabuntur; deinde, fraudem hostilem timentes, in Forum et Foro propinqua loco redeunt. Ibi venerabundi intuentur in vestibulo ædium sedentes viros. Sellas eburneas, ornatum habitumque humano angustiorem, majestatem oris mirantur. At unus ex his, M. Papirius, Galli barbam permulcentis caput scipione eburneo percussit, et iram movit. Ab eo initium cædis ortum: cæteri in sedibus suis trucidati sunt. Post principum cædem nulli mortalium parcitur.

Galli, paucos post dies, totâ Urbe vastatâ, impetum in arcem faciunt. Hôc frustra tentato, obsidionem parant. At quod in Urbe fuerat frumentum incendiis Urbis absumpserant. Igitur, exercitu diviso, pars per finitimos populos prædam petebat; pars arcem obsedebat, ut frumentum obsidentibus populatores agrorum præberent. Proficiscentes Gallos ab Urbe duxit fortuna Ardeam, ubi Camillus exsulabat. In barbaros Ardeates, suadente et ducente Camillo, nocte impetum faciunt, castra neglecta et intuta inveniunt. Non prælium sed cædes fuit: nudi et somno soluti trucidantur. Nec multo post Camillus Dictator creatus est.

At interim arx Romana Capitoliumque in ingenti periculo fuit. Galli viam, quâ nuntius a Veiis in Capitolium pervenerat, notaverant. Mox nocte sublustri ascendere conati sunt. Primò inermem, qui viam tentaret, præmiserunt. Tradiderunt inde arma, et sublevârunt invicem, et traxerunt alii alios, prout postularet locus. Tanto demum silentio ad summum evasere, ut non custodes solum fallerent, sed ne canes quidem, sollicitum animal ad nocturnos strepitus, excitarent. Anseres non fefellerunt, quibus, Junoni sacris, in summâ inopià cibi abstinebatur. Quæ res saluti fuit. Namque clangore eorum alarunque strepitu excitus, M. Manlius, vir bello egregius, armistrepitu excitus, M. Manlius, vir bello egregius, armistrepitus.

arreptis, simul ad arma cæteros ciens, vadit, et dum cæteri trepidant, Gallum, qui in summo constiterat, umbone ictum detubrat. Hujus casu sternuntur proximi; trepidantes et, armis omissis, saxa manibus amplexos Manlius trucidat. Jamque alii congregrati telis missilibusque saxis proturbant hostes, mox pellunt. Postero die Manlius ob virtutem laudatus est. Universi milites selibras farris et quartarios vini ad ædes ejus, quæ in arce erant, contulerunt. Rem dictu parvam inopia fecerat argumentum ingens caritatis. Unus e vigilibus, in quem omnes culpam conjiciebant, de saxo dejectus est.

Per hos dies Camillus Dictator copias comparabat, quibus haud impar hostes adoriretur. At exercitum Capitolinum jam urgebat fames, quæ neque dissimulari, neque ferri poterat. Diem de die prospectant, ecquid auxilium ab Dictatore appareret. Postremò, spe quoque jam, non solum cibo, deficiente, se vel dedere, vel redimere constituunt. Jactabant non obscurè Galli, se haud magna mercede adduci posse, ut obsidionem relinquant. Tum Senatus habitus, Tribunisque militum negotium datum est, ut paciscerentur. Inde inter Q. Sulpicium, Tribunum militum, et Brennum, regulum Gallorum, colloquio res transacta est, et mille pondo auri pretium populi gentibus mox imperaturi factum est. Rei fædissimæ per se adjecta est indignitas. Pondera ab Gallis allata iniqua, et recusante Tribuno, additus ab insolenti Gallo ponderi gladius, auditaque intoleranda Romanis vox, "Væ victis esse." Sed Diique et homines prohibuere Romanos redemptos vivere. Nam forte quâdam, priusquam infanda merces perficeretur, Dictator intervenit; auferrique aurum de medio, Gallosque submoveri jubet. Instruit deinde aciem; Galli irâ magis quam consilio in Romanos incurrunt; mox fugantur. Justiore deinde prœlio, ad octavum lapidem Gabinâ viâ, ejusdem ductu Camilli, vincuntur. Ibi cædes omnia obtinuit; castra capiuntur, et ne nuntius quidem cladia relictus

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### CXXXVIII.

# Apud Furculas Caudinas clades.

Samnites hôc anno Imperatorem Caium Pon-A.U.C. tium, Herennii filii, habuerunt, patre longè prudentissimo natum, primum ipsum bellatorem ducemque. Is, exercitu educto, circa Caudium castra quam occultissimè locat. Inde ad Calatiam, ubi jam Consules Romanos castraque esse audiebat, milites decem pastorum habitu mittit. Hi a Romanis capti affirmant, legiones Samnitium in Apulia esse; Luceriam omnibus copiis circumsedere; nec procul abesse, quin vi capiant.' Duæ ad Luceriam ferebant viæ; altera præter oram Superi Maris patens apertaque, altera per Furculas Caudinas brevior. Sed ita natus locus est. Saltus duo altiangustique silvosique sunt ; jacet inter eos campus herbidus aquosusque, per quem medium iter est. Sed antequam venias ad eum, intrandæ primæ angustiæ sunt; si ire porro pergas, per alium saltum arctiorem impeditioremque evadendum. Saltum hunc Romani arboribus saxisque septum inveniunt. Citati inde retro, quâ venerant, pergunt repetere viam. Eam quoque clausam suâ obice armisque inveniunt. Stupor omnium animos tenet. Nulla spes relinqui videtur. Samnites interim Herennium Pontium, Imperatoris patrem, per literas consulunt. Is censuit, Romanos quam primum inviolatos dimittendos. Quæ ubi spreta est sententia, censuit, omnes ad unum interficiendos. Quæ ubi tam discordia inter se responsa data sunt, quanquam filius animum quoque patris consenuisse in affecto corpore rebatur, tamen consensu omnium victus est, ut ipsum in concilium acciret. Senex plaustro invectus in castra dicitur, vocatusque in concilium ita ferme locutus est: "Priore consilio, quod optimum duco, cum potentissimo populo per ingens beneficium firmabitis pacem, amicitiamque. Altero consilio in multas ætates bellum differetis, quia, duobus amissis exercitibus, vires Roma haud facilè est receptura. Tertium est nullum consilium." Neutra sententia accepta. Herennius domum e castris est avectus.

Mox Romani legatos ad C. Pontium mittunt, qui primò pacem æquam peterent, si pacem non impetrarent, uti provocarent ad pugnam. Tunc Pontius "Debellatum est," respondit, "et quoniam ne victi quidem et capti fortunam fateri scitis, inermes cum singulis vestimentis sub jugum missurus sum. Aliæ conditiones pacis æquæ victis ac victoribus erunt. Agro Samnitium decedant Romani; coloniæ abducantur; suis deinde legibus Romanus et Samnis æquo fædere vivant." Hæc quum legati renuntiâssent, ingens omnium gemitus exortus est. Quum diu silentium fuisset, L. Lentulus, qui tum princeps legatorum virtute atque honoribus fuit, accipiendas conditiones censuit. Consules a Pontio colloquium petunt; pax facta est. Reditu Consulum redintegratus in castris luctus. Multa fremebat miles: "Nos belluarum modo cæci in foveam missi. Nos sine ferro, sine vulnere, sine acie victi; nobis non stringere licuit gladios, non manum cum hoste conferre; nobis nequicquam arma, nequicquam vires, nequicquam animi dati." Hæc frementibus hora fatalis ignominiæ advenit. Primi Consules prope seminudi sub jugum missi; dein reliquus exercitus. Sic mœstum et deforme agmen Romani rediit. Insequenti anno Romani pacem irritam fecerunt, suadente ipso pacis auctore, Sp. Postumio; qui eam sposponderant, vinctos Samnitibus tradiderunt. At hos C. Pontius, quum malam Populi Romani fidem graviter reprehendisset, inviolatos dimisit.

### CXXXIX.

Carthaginienses prælio navali a C. Duilio victi.

Romani, bellum cum Carthaginiensibus gerentes, fabricandæ classi animum intenderunt. A.U.C. Ex quo magnitudinem animi, et in rebus suscipiendis audaciam, existimare licet. Nam, qui apparatum, ne dicam idoneum, sed omnino multum haberent, et de mari ne cogitâssent quidem unquam, cum iis dimicare ausi sunt, qui maris imperium, a majoribus traditum, sine certamine obtinebant. Fortè in potestatem Romanorum navis Punica venerat. Hæc classem ædificantibus exemplo fuit. Primo parum prosperè res gesta est. Nam Cnæus Cornelius, classis Præfectus, cum navibus septemdecim ab Hannibale est captus. Quod quum audîsset C. Duilius, qui terrestribus copiis in Sicilia præerat, statim ad classem trajecit. Quum autem essent Romanorum naves rudi arte constructæ et ad motum inhabiles. inventa est machina, quâ milites in naves hostium facilè insilire possent. Mox Duilius cum totà classe adversus hostes proficiscitur: Carthaginienses, ad conspectum Romanorum læti atque alacres, centum triginta navibus in altum evehuntur. Sed incauti atque imparati, tanguam ad facilem prædam, feruntur. Mox in proris navium suspensas machinas conspiciunt; hærent primo, rei novitatem admirati: tandem tamen, spretis penitus hostibus, magnâ cum audaciâ impetum faciunt. Tum Romani in tabulata navium hostilium machinas demittunt; per has milites ingrediuntur, et pugnam cient. Carthaginiensium alii trucidati sunt, alii miraculo perculsi sese dediderunt. Erat enim prœlium illud pedestri quam navali similius. Itaque triginta naves, quæ Romanos primæ invaserant, aut captæ aut mersæ. Dux ipse Hannibal in scapha evasit. Reliqua multitudo, præcedentium navium cladem intuens, cautiùs rem<sup>\*</sup>gessit; sed quum machinæ istæ nullo modo evitari possent, tandem omnes fugerunt. Duilius, primus ducum Romanorum, triumphum navalem egit.

## CXL

# Alpes ab Hannibale superatæ.

Hannibal Carthaginiensis, Italiam invasurus, A.U.C. Alpes transire statuit. Nono die in jugum montium pervenit. Biduum in jugo stativa habita; fessisque labore et pugnando quies data militibus; jumentaque aliquot, quæ prolapsa in rupibus erant, sequendo vestigia agminis in castra pervenere. Fessos tædio tot malorum nivis etiam casus, occidente jam sidere Vergiliarum, terruit. Signa tamen primâ luce mota. Et jam per omnia nive oppleta segniter agmen incedebat, pigritiaque et desperatio in omnium vultu eminebat: tum Hannibal, signa prægressus, in promontorio quodam, unde longè et latè prospectus erat, consistere jubet milites, Italiamque ostentat. "Mœnia," inquit, "jam transcenditis non Italiæ modò, sed etiam Urbis Romæ. Cætera plana, proclivia erunt. Uno aut summum altero prœlio arcem et caput Italiæ in potestate habebitis." Procedere inde agmen cœpit. Omnis ferme via præceps, angusta, lubrica Ventum deinde ad multo angustiorem rupem. Naturâ locus jam ante præceps, recenti terræ lapsu in mille pedum attitudinem abruptus erat. Ibi, velut ad finem viæ, equites constabant. Miratur Hannibal, quid agmen moraretur: nuntiatur, rupem inviam esse. Digressus deinde ipse ad locum visendum. Frustra conatur agmen circumducere. Tandem, nequicquam jumentis atque hominibus fatigatis, castra in jugo posita, ægerrimè ad id ipsum loco purgato: tantum nivis fodiendum atque egerendum fuit. Per rupem ipsam viem facere statuit. Milites circa struem ingentem lignorum faciunt; eamque, quum et vis venti apta faciendo igni coorta esset, succendunt, ardentiaque saxa infuso aceto putrefaciunt. Ita torridam incendio rupem ferro pandunt, viamque faciunt, quâ non jumenta solùm, sed etiam elephanti deduci possent. Quatriduum circa rupem consumptum, jumentis prope fame absumptis; nuda enim feri cacumina sunt, et si quid est pabuli, obruunt nives. Inde ad planum descensum. Hôc modo Hannibal in Italiam pervenit.

## CXLI.

#### Prælium Cannense.

Inter duos Consules, qui Romano exercitui præerant, et diebus alternis imperitabant, exorta 356. est discordia. Æmilio cunctatio, Varroni festinatio placuit. Itaque Varro, quum imperii sui dies venisset, nihil consulto collega, copias flumen Aufidum traducit. Sequitur Paullus, qui consilium collegee probare non potuit, adjuvare voluit. Tum aciem instruunt. In dextro cornu Romanos equites locant, deinde pedites. Lævum cornu equites sociorum tenuerunt; intra erant pedites, ad medium juncti legionibus Romanis. Contra Hannibal Gallos Hispanosque equites prope rivam lævo in cornu locat adversus Romanum equitum : dextrum cornu dat Numidis equitibus, mediam aciem peditibus firmat. Sol peropportune utrique parti obliquus erat, Romanis in meridiem, Pœnis in septemtrionem versis. Ventus (Vulturnus incolæ regionis vocant), coortus est, qui pulvere multo in ora Romanorum volvendo prospectum ademit.

Clamore sublato, procurrunt auxilia et pugnam levibus armis committunt. Deinde equites Galli Hispanique cum Romanis concurrunt. Nullum circa ad evagandum spatium relictum est. Pugnantes hinc amnis, hinc peditum

acies claudebant. Itaque, stantibus equis, vir virum amplexus detrahebat equo. Acriùs tamen quam diutiùs pugnatum est; pulsique Romani equites terga vertunt. Sub equestris finem certaminis coorta est peditum pugna. Romani, diu ac sæpe connisi, Callos Hispanosque impellunt, et incautè sequuntur; mox ab Afris, qui in utroque cornu stabant, clauduntur. Contra hos, nequicquam defuncti prœlio uno, integram pugnam ineunt.

In sinistro cornu Romano prœlium a Punicâ fraude

In sinistro cornu Romano prœlium a Punicâ fraude cœptum est. D ferme Numidæ, præter solita arma telaque, gladios occultos sub loricis habentes, specie transfugarum adequitant, et repente ex equis desiliunt; parmisque et jaculis ante pedes hostium projectis, in mediam aciem accepti, ductique ad ultimos, considere a tergo jubentur. Ac, dum prœlium ab omni parte conseritur, quieti manserunt; postquam omnium animos oculosque occupaverat certamen, tum arreptis scutis, quæ passim inter acervos cæsorum corporum strata erant, adversam adoriuntur Romanam aciem; tergaque ferientes, et poplites cædentes, stragem ingentem faciunt.

Parte alterâ pugnæ Consul Paullus, quanquam primo statim prœlio fundâ graviter ictus, tamen et occurit sæpe Hannibali, et aliquot locis, prœlium restituit, protegentibus eum equitibus Romanis. Mox, quum jam Consul equum suum regere non posset, omnes ad pedem descendunt. Quod quum Hannibal magno cum gaudio vidisset, clamans, "hostes sibi vinctos dedi," suos hortatus est. Romani diu fortissimè pugnant; postremò, qui possunt, equos repetunt, fugiuntque. Cn. Lentulus, Tribunus militum, sedentem in saxo, cruore oppletum, Consulem vidit. "L. Æmili," inquit, "cape hunc equum: dum et tibi aliquid virium superest, comes ego te tollere possum et protegere. Ne funestam hanc pugnam morte Consulis feceris. Etiam sine hôc lacrymarum luctusque satis est."

Ad ea Consul, "Cave, ne frustra miserando exiguum

tempus e manibus hostium evadendi absumas. Abi, nuntia Patribus, Urbem muniant, et priusquam hostis victor adveniat, præsidiis firment. Me in hâc strage militum meorum patere exspirare." Hæc exigentes priùs turba fugientium civium, deinde hostes oppressere; Carthaginienses Consulem, ignorantes quis esset, telis obruerunt, Lentulum inter tumultum abripuit equus. Tum inde effusè fugiunt Romani.

Hannibalem victorem hortatus est Maharbal, Præfectus equitum, ut Romam statim contenderet. "Die quinto," inquit, "in Capitolis victor epulaberis." At Hannibal, voluntatem se laudare Maharbalis,' ait, 'ad consilium prensandum tempore opus esse.' Tum Maharbal "Non omnia nimirum eidem Dii dederunt. Vincere scis, Hannibal; victorià uti nescis." Mora ejus diei creditur saluti fuisse Urbi et imperio. Sed tanta erat clades, quantam Respublica vix sustinere potuit. Cecidit ingens peditum equitumque numerus. Nam nuntius, quem Hannibal Carthaginem miserat, annulos aureos in vestibulo Curiæ effundi jussit: qui tantus acervus fuit, ut modium expleret. Hoc autem insigne nemo nisi eques, atque eorum ipsorum primores, gerebat.

## CXLII.

## Hasdrubal ad flumen Metaurum devictus.

Hasdrubal, quum, suas cum Hannibalis copias conjuncturus, in Umbriam pervenisset, literas 545. inde ad fratrem miserat. Has, a Tarentinis interceptas, quum C. Claudius Nero, Consul, perlegisset, audax consilium iniit. De toto exercitu sex millia peditum, mille equitum delegit. In castris suis Q. Catium, Legatum, reliquit: ipse in Umbriam, quantis

maximis poterat itineribus, properavit. Ad collegam Livium, qui in Umbrià exercitum habebat, præmissi erant. qui adventum nuntiarent, percunctarenturque, 'clam an palam, interdiu an noctu, venire sese vellet, iisdem an aliis castris considere.' Nocte clam ingredi melius visum est. Tessera per castra ab Livio data erat, ut tribunus tribunum, centurio centurionem, eques equitem, pedes peditem acciperet. Ad Senam castra Livii erant; et quingentos inde ferme passus Hasdrubal aberat. Nocte et silentio Nero castra ingressus est. Postero die concilium habitum. Multorum ed inclinant sententise, ut fessum viâ ac vigiliis reficeret militem Nero, et tempus pugnæ differetur. Nero contra de periculo moræ disseruit. statim pugnandum censuit. Hæc vicit sententia. Concilio dimisso, signum pugnæ proponitur. Jam hostes ante castra instructi stabant, quum Hasdrubal, id quod erat, suspicatus, receptui cecinit. Mox misit ad flumen, unde aquabantur Romani; ubi notari posset, si qui forte adustioris coloris, ut ex recenti viâ, essent. Simul circumvehi, procul castra jubet, et speculari, num auctum aliquâ parte sit vallum; et ut attendant, semel bisne signum canat in castris. Audito, bis in consularibus castris signum cecinisse, magnopere veretur, ne Hannibal cladem haud mediocrem accepisset, ipse perditis rebus serum auxilium ferret. His anxius curis, nocte castra deseruit, sed dum, elapsis ducibus, vada Metauri fluminis frustra quærebat, spatium dedit ad sese insequendum hosti. Nero primum cum omni equitatu advenit : mox secutus est reliquus exercitus. Claudius dextro in cornu, Livius ab sinistro pugnam instruit; media acies Prætori tuenda datur. Hasdrubal, postquam pugnandum vidit, in primâ acie ante signa elephantos collocat. Lævo in cornu adversus Claudium Gallos opponit: ipse dextrum cornu adversus M. Livium sibi et Hispanis (et ibi maxime in vetere milite spem habebat) sumpsit. Ligures in medio post

·elephantos positi. Inter Livium Hasdrubalemque ingens nertamen erat. Ibi duces ambo; ibi pars major peditum equitumque Romanorum; ibi Hispani, vetus miles peritusque pugnæ Romanæ, et Ligures, durum in armis genus. Eddem versi elephanti, qui primo impetu aciem Romanam turbaverant, nunc, crescente certamine ac clamore, inter duas acies versabantur, haud dissimiliter navibus sine gubernaculo vagis. Tum Claudius cohortes aliquot, subductas e dextro cornu, post aciem circumducit, et in sinistrum hostium latus incurrit. Mox ex omnibus partibus, ab fronte, ab latere, ab tergo, cæduntur Hispani Liguresque: et ad Gallos jam cædes pervenerat. Ibi minimum certaminis fuit. Pars magna ab signis aberant, nocte dilapsi, stratique somno passim per agros: et qui aderant, labore ac vigiliis fessi, vix arma humeris gestabant. Elephanti plures ab ipsis rectoribus, quam ab hoste interfecti, graum sævire et ruere in suos cœpissent. pugnantes hortando, pariterque obeundo pericula, sustinuit: ille fessos, abnuentesque tædio ac labore, nunc precando, nunc castigando accendit: ille fugientes revocavit, omissamque pugnam aliquot locis restituit; postremò, ne exercitui tanto superesset, concitato equo, se in cohortem Romanam Ibi, ut patre Hamilcare et fratre Hannibale dignum erat, pugnans cecidit. LVI. millia hostium; VIII. millia Romanorum sociorumque occisa. Nero eâdem nocte, quæ pugnam secuta est, profectus, sexto die ad castra sua pervenit.

## CXLIIL

# Mors Sophonisbæ.

Sophonisba, Syphacis uxor, filia Hasdrubalis Pœni, quum a Masinissâ conjux victus esset, in hujus potestatem venit. Erat autem cum Romanis Masinissa societate junctus. Illa victorem supplicavit, ut ipsam, si nullà alià re posset, morte a Romanorum arbitrio vindicaret. Forma erat insignis et florentissima ætas. Tum victor captive amore captus, in regiam concedit, nuptiasque in eum ipsum diem parari jubet. Factis nuptiis supervenit dux Romanus, et Sophonisbam, cum Syphace et cæteris captivis ad Scipionem. mittendam esse statuit. Tandem victus est precibus Masinissæ orantis, ut rem ad Scipionem rejiceret. Ille, re cognità, Masinissam increpat, de Sophonisbâ Senatum Populumque Romanum judicaturum affirmat. Hæc quum audivisset Masinissa, flens et confusus, ex prætorio in tabernaculum suum concessit. Ibi arbitris remotis, quum crebro suspiritu et gemitu, quod facile ab circumstantibus tabernaculum exaudiri posset, aliquantum temporis consumpsisset, fidum e servis vocat, sub cujus custodià venenum erat, regio more ad incerta fortunæ paratum, et mixtum in poculo ferre ad Sophonisbam jubet, ac simul nuntiare, "Masinissa tibi fidem præstat, ne viva in potestatem Romanorum venias. Memor patris imperatoris patriæque, et duorum regum, quibus nupta es, tibi ipsa consulito." nuntium ac simul venenum ferens minister, quum ad Sophonisbam venisset, "Accipio," inquit, "nuptiale munus; neque ingratum, si nihil majus vir uxori præstare potuit. Hoc tamen nuntia: me melius morituram fuisse, si non in funere meæ nupsissem." Tum acceptum poculum, nullo trepidationis signo dato, impavide hausit.

### CXLIV.

# Carthaginis interitus.

Profligato bello Punico tertio, de ipsa Carthagine in Senatu consultum est. Cato inexpiabili
odio 'delendam esse Carthaginem' pronuntiabat:
Scipio Nasica 'servandam, ne, metu ablato semulse urbis.

Respublica superbire inciperet.' Medium Senatus elegit, ut urbs loco moveretur. Carthaginienses, jam pacem sperantes, classem tradidere. Hæc a Romanis incensa. Tum evocatis principibus imperatum est, 'ut migrarent finibus, si salvi esse vellent. Hoc adeo movit iras, ut extrema mallent. Pari voce 'ad arma' clamatum est; omnibus placuit bellum, non quia spes ulla jam superesset, sed quia patriam suam mallent hostium, quam suis, manibus everti. Tum in usum novæ classis tecta domusque resciderunt; in armorum officinis aurum et argentum pro ære ferroque conflatum est: in tormentorum vincula matronæ crines suos contulerunt. Mox captus a Romanis primus, et sequens, jam et tertius murus, quum tamen Byrsa, quod nomen arci fuit, quasi altera civitas resistebat. Tum Scipio, Africani illius magni nepos, exercitui Romano præpositus est. In fatis esse videbatur, ut quam urbem concusserat avus, nepos ejus everteret. Sed plus negotii fuit cum Carthagine semirutâ, quam cum integrâ. Compulsis in unam arcem hostibus, portum quoque maris Romani obsederant. Illi alterum ibi portum ab aliâ urbis parte foderunt. Inde, quasi enata, subitò classis erupit: et semper, nocte dieque, nova aliqua moles, nova machina, nova perditorum hominum manus, quasi subita e cineribus flamma, prodibat. Postremò, quadraginta ac millia virorum, duce Hasdrubale, dediderunt. At uxor ducis, comprehensis duobus liberis, e culmine domûs se in medium misit incendium, imitata reginam, quæ Carthaginem condidit. Quanta urbs deleta sit, hôc probari potest, quòd per continuos decem et septem dies vix potuit incendium exstingui.

## CXLV.

## Cimbri ac Teutones a C. Mario devicti.

Cimbri ac Teutones, quum jam Romanos ex-A.U.C. 648-651. ercitus sæpe fudissent, Italiæ et Urbi ipsi imminebant. Actum erat, nisi C. Marius illi seculo contigisset. Is, Consulatu per quatuor annos gesto, Rempublicam conservavit. Neque ipse ausus cum barbaris statim congredi; militem tenuit in castris, donec invicta illa rabies, et impetus, quem pro virtute barbari habent, consenesceret. Hostes tripertito agmine per Alpes, id est, claustra Italiæ, ferebantur. Marius, mirâ velocitate usus, barbaros prævenit. Priores Teutones sub ipsis Alpium radicibus assecutus est, et in loco, quem Aquas Sextías vocant, oppressit. Vallem fluviumque hostes tenebant. Nostris nulla aquarum copia. Consultone id egerit Imperator, an errorem in consilium verterit, dubium. Certè. necessitate aucta virtus causa victoriæ fuit. Nam, flagitante aquam exercitu, "Viri," inquit, "estis: en illic habetis." Itaque tanto ardore pugnatum est, eaque cædes hostium fuit, ut victor Romanus de cruento flumine non plus aquæ biberit, quam sanguinis barbarorum. Captus ipse rex Theutobochus. Is insigne spectaculum triumphi fuit. Quippe vir proceritatis eximiæ super trophæa ipsa. eminehat.

Marius, sublatis funditus Teutonis, in Cimbros convertitur. Hi, Alpes hibernas transgressi, jam in Italiam descenderant. Si statim infesto agmine Urbem petiissent, grande esset discrimen. At in Venetiâ diutiùs morati sunt. Ibi molliore jam cœlo languidos Marius aggressus est. In patentissimo campo commissum est prœlium. Imperator Romanus nebulosum diem nactus erat, ut hosti inopinatus occurreret: tum ventosum quoque, at

pulvis in oculos et ora ferretur. Non minus cum uxoribus barbarorum, quam cum ipsis pugna fuit: quum objectis undique plaustris, atque carpentis, altæ desuper, quasi e turribus, lanceis contisque pugnarent. Perinde speciosa mors earum fuit, quam pugna. Nam, quum fusus esset exercitus suorum, suffocatis elisisque passim infantibus, aut mutuis conciderunt vulneribus, aut, vinculo e crinibus suis facto, ab arboribus jugisque plaustrorum pependerunt. Ad sexaginta millia barbarorum ceciderunt. Rex Beleus in acie dimicans, neque inultus, occubuit.

## CXLVI.

## Mors C. Julii Casaris.

Quum Crassus in Parthicâ expeditione cecidisset, Pompeius, apud Pharsaliam victus, in 4.0 c. Ægypto interfectus esset, C. Julius Cæsar solus in civitate dominus exstitit. In eum sexaginta homines conspiraverunt, quorum principes fuerunt C. Cassius, Mariusque et Decius Bruto. Multa quidem, ut fertur, imminentis periculi indicia fuerunt. Immolantem haruspex Spurinna monuit, ut Idus Martias caveret. Eâ nocte, cui dies cædis illuxit, ipse sibi in somnis visus est supra nubes volitare, et cum Jove dextram jungere. Et somniavit Calpurnia uxor, collabi fastigium domûs, maritumque in gremio suo confodi. Ob hæc, simul et ob infirmam valetudinem, diu cunctatus est, an se domi contineret. Tandem, Decimo Bruto adhortante, progressus est. Libellum, insidiarum indicem, ab obvio quodam porrectum, libellis cæteris, quos sinistrâ manu tenebat, quasi mox lecturus, commiscuit. Tum Curiam introiit, Spurinnam simul irridens, quòd sine noxâ ulla Idus Martiæ venissent. Ille respondisse fertur, 'venisse eas, non præteriisse.'

Assidentem conspirati, specie officii circumsteterunt. Cimber Tillius, qui primas partes susceperat, quasi aliquid rogaturus, propiùs accessit. Cæsari renuenti togam ab utroque humero apprehendit. Clamantem, "Ista quidem vis est," alter vulnerat paullum infra jugulum. Cæsar Cassii brachium arripuit, et graphio trajecit: conatus prosilire alio vulnere tardatus est. Utque animadvertit, undique se strictis pugionibus peti, togâ caput obvolvit. Atque ita tribus et viginti plagis confossus est. Unum modò ad primum ictum gemitum edidit. Vox nulla est audita; nisi verum sit, quod tradidere quidam, irruenti M. Bruto, "Et tu, Brute," dixisse. Obiit ætatis anno quinquagesimo sexto.

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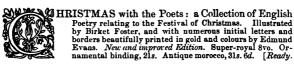
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